

Public Libraries

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he Library and the Community*

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MOST of us would say that we are here tonight in the interest of the library. We want it to grow. We are proud of it.

Let's turn that about. The library is here in your interest. It wants you to grow. It is proud of you and of the town.

For the library is a public utility. With the schools, it is the university of this town. It is a community center. It has a personality of its own, the composite of the town's personality.

Thomas Carlyle was a wise man. He once declared in epigram: "The true university of these days is a collection of books." Many a library has taken credit to itself accordingly: "That's easy; I am a collection of books, therefore a university; therefore I am great; I will sit down and rest." As the geometry says, Q. E. D.; it is still resting. Worse yet, many a collection of books has deceived itself: "I am a library; I am a university; therefore let all men come to me." And when men came, they found a mass of books and perhaps great scholarship,—but vitality, contact with human need, not at all. Wherefore they let the collection of books remain a collection of books.

No, a library is not a collection of books. Nor is a collection of books a

library. And I am not saying that Carlyle meant either thing.

What is a librarian?

If a library is no longer merely a collection of books, neither is a librarian any longer a mere keeper of books. A librarian is a user of books, a missionary of ideas, a teacher of ideals. Not to play on the words, your modern librarian is a live wire running parallel with other wires; the live wire induces the use of books, stirs up ideas, generates ideals.

I have the greatest respect for the libraries and librarians of older days. They lived according to their light. Have you heard that story of the Harvard librarian of some 80 years ago? On a bright Saturday afternoon in spring, when asked how things fared with him, he answered, "O, rarely good. Every book is in except one, and I'm on my way to Agassiz's to get it." We have turned that attitude right around. We are concerned not so much with getting books in the library as with getting them out.

Mr John Cotton Dana, of Newark, New Jersey, one of America's foremost librarians and thinkers, has written a new library creed. Here it is:

Select the best books, list them elaborately and expensively, and save them forever—this was the sum of the librarian's creed of yesterday. Tomorrow it must be, select a few of the best books and keep them, as before, but also, select from the vast flood of print the things your constitu-

*An address given at Larned, Kansas, November 6, 1914, in the new Cummins memorial library.

ency will find helpful, make them available with a minimum of expense, and discard them as soon as their usefulness is past.

One of Carlyle's contemporaries, Victor Hugo, described a library as "an act of faith, which generations still in darkness hid signed in their night in witness of the dawn." Get that. It is the whole modern library idea in a nutshell. An act of faith is a decision based on character, an expression of confidence and interest in the "things hoped for and not seen," the ideas and ideals that after all really control us. The field of the library is the whole world of ideas and ideals believed in by men. Moreover, in Hugo's fine words there is an unselfish and a hopeful attitude toward the future. What is more unselfishly and hopefully provident than the gathering and storing of human documents, the records of human achievement, in libraries? (There, by the way, is your old-time librarian, —saving his books for the future to use.) And then, "in witness of the dawn," says Hugo: day follows swiftly after night, generations now in darkness are tomorrow in light; even so do books and libraries minister to the world here and now.

The library is a public utility in just the same way that your city water-works is a public utility. When you want water, do you wonder where you will get it? No, you turn the faucet and draw the water. When you want light, do you send off for a storage battery and wire? No, you turn on the light. When you want information, ideas, inspiration, why not have them on tap right here in your midst? The public library is that sort of public utility, just as natural a utility as the supply of water, light, communication.

You are founding the public library utility here. Will you use it? How much will you demand of your library utility?

The answer to this question will also be the discussion of my second statement, namely: That with the public schools, the library is the university of the town.

Does the following statement commend itself to you? It is the business of the schools to begin a man's education, not to end it. At commencement time your high school senior is equipped merely with the mental tools and the required general knowledge to go on with his growth in power and usefulness through life. Not one of us can continue our growth,—that is to say, not one of us can educate ourselves—except by coming into contact with new material, new information, new ideas. There is the library's business. It is your university. It is the Larned continuation school for each one of you individually.

Let me be specific: Mr A and Mr B are interested in hardware and cutlery. Why should not your university, the public library, keep them informed as to developments in the manufacture of fine table cutlery? Mr C and Mr D write insurance. Will they not welcome the latest word in fire prevention, and isn't it the duty of some public utility to furnish them and all other Larned underwriters with the last word on their business? Mr E and Mr F and Mr G are public servants as well as plumbers and furnace men. The public has a right to expect that they will be informed, continually educated regarding the best things in the plumbing and heating that have so much to do with our health and comfort. More business for the town's university. The young mothers of the town have a right to know the truth about the feeding and care of children. The boy who wants to make an aeroplane, the little girl who wants to make dresses for her doll, the high school boy who wants debate material, the barber who wants to know how face lotions are made, the printer who wants to know the paid circulation of a newspaper somewhere in Oklahoma, or Mr X who wants to know the mileage and freight tonnage of the German railways,—everyone of these good people has a right to this information, these ideas, these elements of further education for community usefulness.

I might go on being specific on this belief that your public library is both a public utility and a people's university. Just these additional instances: The city electrician, the city highway engineer, the sodawater mixer, the mechanic in the garage, the teller in the bank, the English teacher at the high school, the woman who wants to raise chickens, the office stenographer, the cabinet maker, the moving picture operator,—everyone of these has a claim on your public library.

Someone asks: Are there books on all those subjects? Aren't they too expensive to buy? I answer: There certainly are books on these subjects, and there are rather simple means of finding out what the books are. As to expense, they are not expensive, many of them are cheap; and nothing is expensive anyhow that produces the results.

Another question comes: But is a library to be only bread and butter, dollar and cent, books? No. I emphasize that side because it is not generally realized that a library can be a public utility. I believe the plumber is a better plumber who can read and enjoy one of Thackeray's wholesome stories. The insurance agent who can read and understand Wordsworth's Sonnet on Westminster Bridge—

And all that mighty heart is lying still.
—is a better man and can write more insurance.

Another question—this one is loaded: What is the public library to do about fiction? Remember that there are people and people, novels and novels. Some novels are like opium; they deaden the mind little by little till there is no mentality left. Some novels are like the fresh Kansas wind blowing over the prairies on a spring morning,—good for us. And remember that people read and talk about what they see and hear most. If the library emphasizes fiction, the readers will emphasize fiction. Who is going to read sawdust when an airship is sailing about overhead? Let's put a few airships into our libraries. But let's have

the real stories, the soul-refreshing sort, for the times when there aren't any airships.

On the fiction question, I like what President Wm. T. Foster, of Reed college, Portland, Oregon, said.

Some day our libraries will go beyond even this (what the people want). They will select; they will lead rather than follow; they will enlarge their teaching functions; they will stimulate people to think rather than relieve them of the trouble. They will therefore decline to spend the people's money on the ephemeral and the empty,—the newest novel, wet, as Ruskin says, with the latest spray of the fountain of folly.

Further, I said the public library is a community center. The library that meets the conditions here laid down for its public utility and university functions is already a community center. What else can it do to be the community center? Briefly, the library might do some of these things:

Throw its doors wide open and make the use of its books and facilities absolutely free to any citizen of the county. What's that? Tax ourselves and give the county the benefit? Exactly that. Let me remind you that the source of the town's evident prosperity is in the adjacent county farms and river valleys. The town is quite a town, but its duties and privileges of its citizens do not end at the city limits. Purely as a business getter, you can afford to make your public library the social center and the literary home of your county.

Not only that. Your public library might also be the center, the reservoir, for traveling libraries to all the schools of the county.

Another possible community service is a rest room for women and children from town and country. There is more than one possibility in your club rooms and kitchen.

Finally, your library might serve your business men as a business index, a business scout. Would it be worth your town's while to have available the trade catalogs of Kansas industries, city directories, telephone directories, railway timetables, commercial club lists, freight rates?

And lastly I said the public library has a personality of its own. That is evident from the program laid down. Just this conviction in addition: The librarian of a public utility university and community center such as I have tried to picture to you, to use familiar parlance, has "Some job." It is a job demanding capacity and remuneration equal to that of the superintendent of schools in the same town.

It is worth while to hold ideals before us. Now let us catch our breath. How is all this to be done? I have no answer for that except this: You remember the story of Alice in Wonderland? Well, in that other book of Lewis Carroll's "Through the looking glass," the Red Queen tells Alice "You have to run just as fast as you can to stay where you are."

Industrial Library Activity*

Robert J. Thorne, president, Montgomery Ward Company, Chicago

WHEN Henry E. Legler was selected as the best librarian available to Chicago and called to take charge of the Chicago public library, there were hundreds of thousands of books in that library; when Mr Legler was called away there were hundreds of thousands of books in the homes of the people of Chicago.

This bringing books from the shelves of the library to the reading tables in the homes of the people was the chief activity in Mr Legler's connection with the Chicago public library and, of all the work of his life, this activity was perhaps the most characteristic of the man himself. Mr Legler believed that the people would take to books if books were taken to the people.

One of the most interesting and far reaching lines of his plan of library extension activities was the industrial library. He believed that through the great industrial concerns the library could reach people who could not otherwise go into a library to get books.

In 1910, three or four large business concerns in Chicago were induced to give space in their buildings to house libraries for the free use of the employees—little public libraries, in fact.

*Extract from address at the Henry E. Legler Memorial meeting, Chicago, October 30, 1917.

Librarians were hired by the industrial concerns and placed in charge.

That was the start of a movement which now is considered one of the most important welfare activities of the big business houses. Seven years of active work along this line by Mr Legler increased the number of branch libraries in business houses to 28. The Public library has thus been brought into the very heart of almost every kind of big business in Chicago. The number of persons directly affected would form a community of from 250,000 to 300,000 persons. Last year 214,680 books were circulated through these industrial branch libraries. These figures are out of all proportion to the stock of books kept on hand and show thereby the close connection which Mr Legler maintained between the central library and the branches. For instance, at the Montgomery Ward & Company library the stock of books kept regularly on the shelves numbers only 2,000, while the total circulation through this branch last year was 38,000.

By this it is seen that Mr Legler's plan did not stop with placing a few books on the branch library shelves, but made the entire stock of the Chicago public library easily and almost immediately available to the reader through the nearest branch. The

branch librarians encourage readers to order books from the list of those kept at the central library. At Montgomery Ward & Company, if the request for a book or books not on the shelves at that branch is received before 8:30 in the morning the book is there awaiting the reader by 3:30 o'clock of the same day. If the men or women desiring these books were forced to get them from the central library it would take at least an hour of time after work at night. That workers will not often devote an hour after a hard day's work to visiting a library was well demonstrated by the inactivity of library books previous to Mr Legler's regime.

Mr Legler did not stop with inducing the industrial concerns to give over space and hire a librarian for the branches. He worked to improve these industrial branches, molding them to suit the needs of each particular business house, until the plant executives recognized that he not only was doing a splendid helpful work, but was satisfying an actual business need. Every effort is made in the industrial houses themselves to encourage the use of the library. Bulletins of the latest books are made up regularly and placed on the bulletin boards in the employees' recreation rooms. Welfare workers in their talks to new employees always endeavor to get them interested in reading. It is the original intention of these activities to be helpful, but they also have a sound business side, and more than one industrial concern recognizes them as a definite source of income and would not for purely business reasons be without their help and influence.

Not only has the industrial library plan brought recreation and pleasure to many thousands of workers, but it has greatly increased the demand for non-fiction books. At the Montgomery Ward & Company library one-third of the books circulated are non-fiction writings. Many different methods are used by the librarian there to encourage the reading of non-fiction books.

Technical reference work is also

made easily available to persons in those establishments having branch libraries. If a man has a problem of building better pine boxes he can within a few hours surround himself with all authoritative articles written on the subject.

Magazines, especially scientific and business publications are particularly popular with the patrons of the Industrial branch libraries. All of the better magazines are kept on the shelves and may be taken out for four-day periods on the regular library cards. These magazines are of splendid service in keeping the workers up to date and wide awake.

In many of the great factories and other industrial plants there are hundreds of workers who cannot read English. Mr Legler's plan made it possible for these to develop their minds through good reading by placing books in foreign languages on the shelves of branch libraries and encouraging foreigners to ask for other books in the stock at the central library.

Henry E. Legler, by his work in establishing branch libraries in the big stores and industrial plants provided a university to thousands of persons who were deprived by circumstances of more than a meager education. By reason of remoteness or lack of time the library was a closed institution to these thousands before the inauguration of this splendid work. For this service the people of Chicago, and particularly those connected with the plants in which these libraries are located, owe Mr Legler an immeasurable debt.

He was learning one of the great truths of life, a truth that so many fail to learn—that it is not in isolation, but as a member of a body, that a man finds his fullest self-expression; that it is not in self-assertion but in self-subordination, not as an individual, but as one of many brethren . . . that a man finds the complete satisfaction of his instincts, and the highest form of liberty.—*A Student in Arms—Donald Hankey.*

What Does Library Service Do For You in Your Business?

W. H. Cameron, General manager, National Safety Council, Chicago

I HAVE been asked to present the viewpoint and experience of a National Association of Business Men toward the value and usefulness of a Library and Information Bureau. Many Association libraries have existed for years, but the problem of reaching the business man, and interesting him in the technique and collective experience in a problem relating to his business, is still unsolved.

The average business man is a specialist and, to succeed, he must bend every energy to solving the technical details of his chosen field. He is interested, of course, in abstract questions of trade operations but competition narrows his activities to certain well-developed grooves. The social significance of his calling is put aside for a dinner discussion or for a formal gathering at a convention; otherwise he keeps in close touch with the routine detail of his enterprise.

The problem of the library in reaching the business man is as nothing compared with the problem of the business man reaching the library. In fact, neither really tries to effect direct contact, each relying upon a proxy to establish connections. Drop into the John Crerar or the Public library any afternoon and note the proxies digging into the wealth of available material, more often than not you will at once recognize the earmarks of the professional investigator or writer.

Private libraries are often little more than dust catchers. I can, off-hand, recall a dozen where the cases are locked and the custodian has probably forgotten where he placed the keys. This isn't because the material on the shelves is lacking in value but because the American public demands prompt briefing and practical application of every new thought as it is germinated.

The average business man can best afford to have the information he de-

sires brought direct to his desk. He is overworked. He tries to do too much and to go too fast and very often he has too many irons in the fire at one time. "Too much literature, too much clever advertising, get down to business," is his usual analysis of every attempt to interest him in the social and economic problems of the day. He has become accustomed to getting his information quickly, he wants "net results" and has not time for theoretical or academic discussion. Unless the first two minutes of your presentation attracts his attention you speak to unhearing ears, your carefully prepared article goes into the waste basket.

Perhaps a brief resumé of the history of the National Safety Council and its handling of the library problem will answer your query.

In the Fall of 1912 a dozen or two enthusiasts, interested in preventing industrial accidents, saw the need of establishing a central information bureau and library, and business men were invited to contribute their experiences, ideas and methods for carrying on safety work. The theory was to accumulate all the books, pamphlets and printed information and invite members to utilize it in solving their accident prevention problems. Many companies gave us the data requested but failed to utilize the accumulated information. The idea failed because the solution of the problem was regarded as a local one and impossible of universal application. In fact, many thousands of business men did not even know they had a problem to solve. The first plan was promptly discarded in favor of one of publicity and educational effort.

When business men failed to come to the Council library for information the officers of the Council decided to brief the data then in its possession and send it direct to the desks of the operating officials of the industrial plants. Within

six weeks after the Council opened its headquarters a weekly distribution service was inaugurated on the basis of graphic presentation of facts for the prevention of accidents. This method proved successful and for two hundred and fifty weeks these bulletins have been issued regularly. Membership has increased from five industries in 1913 to over thirty-six hundred at the present time. This membership is co-operative and insures an income, based on small membership dues, of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars per year. All this has been secured on the basis of a printed information service placed directly on the business man's desk. Instead of sending him a book or pamphlet, say, on the subject of Safety organization the information is boiled down to a graphic and factual statement covering a sheet $8\frac{1}{2} \times 11$ inches.

The bulletins are now issued in three series: One for the business manager (the Service series), a second, containing brief lectures on safety and designed for posting on bulletin boards in the various departments of the industries (the Bulletin Board series), and a third, (known as the Sectional series) relating to specific hazards of certain industries. Five million of these bulletins were distributed in 1917. A Safety calendar, illustrated in six colors, proved a popular carrier of the safety message, as have a score or so of miscellaneous pamphlets, issued from time to time. Each year the Council holds an annual congress and the proceedings, a volume of 1500 pages, is mailed to each member. In these volumes can be found answers for almost every imaginable classification of accidents, but in spite of their unquestioned value there is little evidence that the volumes are widely read. This amply verifies the experience of the Council that even the most important and valuable information must be briefed for the average business man.

The Council advertises to its members that its library contains the largest collection of printed information on accident prevention extant, but although the Council's membership numbered

eighteen thousand representatives in the year 1917, only twenty-five hundred direct inquiries were received by the librarian. The business man should come to the library, but as he declines to do so we brief the contents of the library and send it to him. The Information bureau and library should be the focusing point in the safety propaganda, but over and over again the officers have received demonstrations that the members forget, or will not take the trouble, to write letters to the library for the help needed. The Council is now supplementing its printed service by personal representatives who call on our clients and by word of mouth convey the information we seek to disseminate.

It is futile and wasteful to place books on shelves and wait for possible users to call. The accumulation, classification and cataloging of the material is vitally important, but the successful business librarian must tempt the business man to use it. The problem of the industry, the application of the library's information, the method of presentation and the utility of the service, all require trained minds. Librarians must be promoters. The business man will use the library if you give him what he wants, in the form he wants it and when he wants it.

Those who are read or educated beyond their intellectual powers are worse off than those who read not at all. The owners of great libraries seldom open a book. Their shelves are filled with beautiful and rare volumes, the leaves of which are uncut. They are too busy making money with which to pay for these luxuries. Forcing books on people does not conduce to a love of books. A book is like a woman, more prized when pursuit is strenuous and possession in doubt. Those who find access to books difficult usually know much about books, and he who knows one good book well is possessed of a good education; because all other truths adjust themselves to the truths contained in one book.—*Selected.*

The Relation of the Public Library to the Private Business Libraries

Dr. Paul N. Nystrom, New York City

THE development and application of the Library idea seems always to have been characterized by growth in details, one by one, rather than as a whole. At one time, we had a rapid spread of Carnegie libraries, at another of school libraries, at another of children's rooms and story hours, at another of traveling libraries and library extension. Having established themselves these detail movements go on with the general library movement constantly making it more significant and useful to the public.

Just now the most rapidly developing phase of the library idea, it seems to me, is the establishment of private business libraries. A large number of concerns already have their libraries or information and data departments organized and operating. Still larger numbers have begun collections of materials similar to those brought together by libraries. The use for business literature is so clear that other hundreds if not thousands, of concerns need only to have the idea and suggestion on how to carry it out brought to their attention in order to cause them to establish similar departments or libraries.

The business library movement is largely a tribute to the public libraries. If I mistake not, the service of the public library has suggested the possibilities of the special business library. The systems of the public library have been drawn upon for the business library. Not a few business librarians have come from the ranks of the public libraries. One may truthfully speak of the business library as a direct offshoot of the public library.

To make clear the actual and possible relations the public library can work out with the business library we must first consider the peculiar functions of the business librarian and of the business library.

From such study as I have been able to give to the matter, it seems to me that the real purpose of the business librarian in a business concern is to bring to the attention of the officers and employees whatever has appeared in print that they should know and in such form as to induce them to use the material. The business librarian should be the concern's specialist on the lines of literature of interest to that concern. The business librarian should both sift and interpret business literature for his concern's use.

The library in a business concern, quite unlike the Carnegian concept, is merely the office in which the business librarian works. It is equipped with supplies which the librarian may need in his work for the company. Its equipment is long on literary tools but short on collections of books and pamphlets. In fact you may have an excellent business library service without any collection of books in the etymological and customary sense of the word "library." The business librarian exercises his profession through knowledge of where information, such as his concern wants, can be found. One business librarian that I have met had no books at all in his office, but did utilize books and periodicals in eight public and professional libraries located in his city.

The ideal business library contains the books, periodicals, documents, and reference works of fairly constant and current use, and particularly the guides, handbooks and directories to the large collections within reach.

The business librarian's work when compared with that of the public librarian, is highly specialized. He must classify and subclassify in planes which never can concern the public library, or at any rate, which would not be practicable for the public library. The work that he does must often be done within

very definite and very limited time. An idea, say some news item, may be of great value if used today, but of no use tomorrow. The business librarian must study the personalities of the people whom he serves in a way that no public librarian can successfully do for the general public. The business librarian, in this respect, must adopt the tactics of the skillful teacher and determine individual methods of getting the attention and interest of the right parties within the concern to the points discovered in his reading of business literature.

The business library function came into existence with the development of business literature, and I mean by business literature, literature that can be put to use in any way by a concern. The function is growing. The need for the business library is greater today than ever before. It will become greater and greater. The business library in one form or another has come to stay. Concerns that are large enough to permit of the necessary division of labor will provide business library organization. Smaller concerns will go as far as their means will permit. There will be such a development as this because the business library, properly conducted, pays.

What shall be the attitude for the public library to take towards business libraries springing up about it? I cannot answer this question by saying what their attitude ought to be. I can only point out what their attitude actually seems to be and then make a suggestion or two on how I think greater progress can be made.

Most public librarians that I know of treat business libraries and librarians just as they treat individual patrons of the library. Not much attention is given to the business library as such. The business librarian merely comes to the public library and receives the public library service under the same rules as other library users. I have known of cases where he thought himself lucky if he were permitted even such service.

There are still other libraries that look upon the business libraries as avenues through which to expand the public library service and accordingly cooperate in numerous ways with business librarians. Such public libraries are to the business libraries much the same as wholesale houses are to retail establishments in other lines of business.

In a few cases the public library is going to the opposite extreme and is attempting to perform business library service for the business men and business concerns in the community and who patronize the library.

There is nothing to discuss about the first method. I take it for granted that no well managed, live public library would restrict its ordinary services to the business librarians in its vicinity.

The second plan, wholesaling the services of the public library to the business library, deserves more attention. The public library must, of course, consider its means before extending such service. But where practicable the usefulness of the public library can no doubt be greatly enhanced by application of this method. To illustrate, no matter how much service a public library already renders to its community, there are certain to be some unworked possibilities. The library may even already reach the great majority of people in a community with certain classes of service and still leave other possible highly valuable services undone. This is especially likely to be true of stimulating the reading of business literature.

In a concern with which I was acquainted, employing in the neighborhood of 300 people, there was established a public branch library specializing on business books. By investigation it was found that scarcely any of these 300 had ever patronized the general public library in the city for this type of reading. By proper encouragement from a live business librarian, a large number of these were induced

to take up reading along business lines, resulting in considerable gain to themselves and to the business.

The public library had been established in the community for years. Practically all of the employees knew of the public library and many of them had used it in various ways, but it required the especial business library located in their own concern to call their attention to the new values.

In other words, among these employees reading for business was an idea not formerly taught them by the general public library. The establishment of the business library indirectly extended the service of the general library in a very specific and valuable line to nearly 300 additional residents of the city. Was it not well worth while for this general library to establish its business branch in this concern?

There is no question but that the public libraries can in many communities expand their services to business interests. They can collect business books, business periodicals and make abstracts of important articles in the periodical literature for the benefit of industries in the community. The public library can promote interest in business literature to a marked degree, without doubt, but it is impossible for the public library to render the intimate special service for the particular concern that the business library performs without sacrificing something of the general public library values.

The establishment of business branches and business departments in libraries is to be highly commended, but this does not take the place of business libraries. On the contrary it will help promote the business library idea.

The Practical Value of a Company Library*

Louise B. Krause, librarian, H. M. Byllesby Company, Chicago.

THE librarian collects all kinds of printed material which bears on subjects in which the company is interested. This is bound to cover a wide range of subjects, and in your company would doubtless touch wood and its preservatives, tests of metals, agricultural conditions, machinery, and so on. The source of information would be not only books in general but state and government reports, periodicals and special information issued by other manufacturing firms. Periodicals are a very fruitful source of information in our library. They are carefully looked over each week by the librarian and important articles are noted and sent to the desks of members of the company who are interested. Special articles are also indexed for future reference. This means a saving of time to the heads of departments who have not the time to look over the magazine literature each week, and also who have

not the time to keep up with the world of print. It also puts on record in the library important information which can be referred to at once. This, of course, necessitates a thorough knowledge by the librarian of every department and interest of the company in order to handle material intelligently. It also means that the librarian must have the confidence of the company in keeping a lookout along lines where the company may have confidential interests.

The librarian may also be able to secure desirable information by correspondence, and as I have inferred, must keep a continual lookout in order to know about all kinds of general information which bears upon the success of the particular business.

The publication of a monthly magazine by a number of firms has been undertaken by their libraries and serves as a clearing house of information in calling attention to important books

*An answer to inquiry.

and periodicals and other items of company interest. Such a magazine is particularly useful in circulating among branch houses maintained in other cities, and in encouraging employees in these branches to write to headquarters for various information. The librarian, of course, is not supposed to be an authority in answering the questions, but will know who in the firm is an authority and procure the desired answers from them. This is very important as no statements* or information should ever be given out in regard to important data which does not bear the official O. K. of some member of the firm.

We have added to our regular library facilities a photograph file covering the plants in which we are interested, also maps and printed booklets giving a general knowledge of business conditions in various cities, which are very useful.

We also have what we call the technical file, in which we include important information which has come to us

*This refers to company data not to purely library references.

in manuscript form, either extracts from letters or special tests or data worked up by individuals.

In fact, our idea is to keep on file everything of value and to keep it in such a way that it can be put at the disposal of any member of the firm in not more than five minutes' time. This is the secret of the success of business library administration—not simply to collect a great mass of material, but rather to select it and to have it immediately available.

There are a number of other ways in which a librarian can be of great service in company business. That, of course, must be determined by an exact knowledge of the nature of the company's business and the manner of its organization and administration.

It seems to me that it would be a paying investment for any firm to get a well-trained librarian with personal qualifications which are adapted to business library work, namely, speed, accuracy and ability to grasp conditions all around, and with a character which will invite confidence and respect.

Library Service to the Workers*

INQUIRIES recently made with regard to the service of the library to the business man show that about 14 per cent use the library. With a view to discovering how this service might be extended and improved the Survey with the co-operation of the St. Paul Association, the Builders' Exchange, and the Trades and Labor Assembly sent out three questionnaires. One addressed to officers and business and industrial organizations, another addressed to officers of trades unions; and a third addressed to employers.

These questionnaires were sent to about 100 organizations and about 700 business or industrial concerns. Re-

plies were received from 12 of the former and from 15 of the latter.

Service through business organizations

The replies from officers of business and industrial organizations are confined wholly to those already interested in the library service. They show, therefore, what has been done rather than what remains to be done.

The list of members of the St. Paul association of office men, for example, has been checked up with library records and applications for cards sent to all who were found to be without cards. As a result the number holding cards was increased from 11 per cent of the membership to 50 per cent.

Most of the organizations either have library committees or plan to have

*Extract from St. Paul Survey.

them, and expect these committees to assist the librarian in the selection of books of interest to their members, and in promoting their use.

They also express an interest in securing bibliographical notes from the library for inclusion in their printed bulletins, or for mailing to their members either as a part of program announcements or otherwise. They also express an interest in having book topics represented on their programs and in having exhibits of new books at their meetings.

Service through trades unions

In response to the inquiry sent to trades unions reports were received showing that of the Carpenters' and joiners' union, 500 members use the library. Of the Steam and operating engineers' union 50 per cent use the library; of the Carpenters, 42 per cent, of the Fur workers, 25 per cent.

Seven of the unions have either appointed library committees or will appoint them.

The majority urge more adequate provision for branch neighborhood service; Fur workers urge also traveling libraries in factories.

The majority also ask that the library furnish them with occasional lists of books of special interest to their members.

It is hoped that provision may be made for the establishment of a branch library in the Trades and Labor Assembly hall and for the publication of a carefully selected list of books of special interest to members of trades unions.

Service through individual employers

If one may judge from the character of the replies received in response to the questionnaire addressed to individual employers, there does not appear to be any general information as to the value of business and industrial literature or as to the use of the library to those engaged in business and industry.

Some employers recognize the value of the books which they have themselves selected and placed in their pri-

vate offices, but do not realize the value of the collections available in the public library, or of the service which the library might be to them.

There are some, too, who appreciate fully what this class of literature means to them personally, but do not understand how much it might promote intelligent co-operation on the part of employees, and so further business economy and efficiency. Some of these employers do not provide books in their business establishments on the ground that employees haven't time to read during business hours; others do not on the ground that employees may get interested in them and waste time in reading them.

There are at present sixteen branches of the public library located in business and industrial establishments.

The libraries in these houses are shelved in either the study room, rest room or lunch room. They vary in size from 60 to 319 volumes. The use of them is promoted by notes in house organs. An employee attends to the distribution of books.

A number of other business organizations in answering the questionnaire express a desire that branches should be established in their houses also.

And a number of them ask that the library keep them informed with regard to new books of interest to their employees.

With this in view the library is assuming the publication of "*Business books*: an index to recent books and articles in magazines of interest to business men," a monthly inaugurated by the Town Criers in October, 1916.

The results of this Survey show that much remains to be done in the direction of making library collections more accessible to citizens and also in the direction of making them better known.

It is the opinion of the Survey that the best way to do this is to pursue the policy already inaugurated by the library of requesting the appointment of library committees by each group or organization to advise the librarian in matters affecting their respective groups and organizations.

Making the Library Better Known

Carl Hunt, editor, *Associated Advertising*

It seems to me that the biggest problem in connection with making the library better known in the local community—the biggest problem and at the same time the easiest thing to do—would be to get behind the library all the people in the community whose natural interest in community development would indicate that they should be behind it.

I refer to the schools, churches and clubs, commercial organizations, business firms, etc.

There ought to be and there could easily be in connection with every branch library, a library club composed of the women of the neighborhood, just as there is now a branch of the Parent-Teachers' association for nearly every school in the city. This club of women would be for the purpose of using the library and inducing others to use it. The purpose of the organization would be educational, chiefly.

Through these library clubs, women would be educated pertaining to the library and would be fitted to make talks before other women's clubs to which they belong. Through them it would be possible, no doubt, to reach the Sunday schools when special library work or other special occasions indicated that there ought to be something said in Sunday school about the library.

The chamber of commerce, in addition to listening to talks on the library and sending out literature and publishing material in its bulletins, should have an active committee particularly interested in the idea of helping community trade by making business men more efficient through using the library.

The church federation and the Sunday school association should have special committees which would exist for the particular purpose of fitting the library into the special needs of the people such organizations represent.

When a librarian talks before a rotary club or before some other organization, the influence should not end there. There should be a plan whereby he would defi-

nately suggest the appointment of a committee to work with the library, and the plan should be complete enough so he could show this committee what it could do and how this would benefit members of the organization. Naturally, the whole appeal in every case would have to be made from the other fellow's standpoint and not from the standpoint of the library itself.

One of the things needed to bring such conditions about would be definite instructions or information for the librarian as to what news is—what the newspapers would use.

Most librarians would need to understand a little more than they do about the functions of the editor of the paper, the managing editor and the reporters. In other words, the average librarian, as I sized the situation up in my conversations at Louisville, needs to know a little more about the inside of a newspaper office and how to deal with newspaper people.

In the next place, the librarian needs to have a little better conception of what constitutes news.

There ought to be, in this connection, some data as to the kind of material which newspapers use concerning libraries. There ought to be a clipping bureau receiving constantly every clipping about a public library for the purpose of finding exactly what kind of material is being used. This would be followed up by inquiry as to how the librarian brought the use of such matter about, unless it is plainly apparent that it was used purely upon a basis of its news value.

From a central office certain types of matter could be supplied to librarians which would be localized by newspapers, no doubt.

In the meantime, there are already innumerable trade papers which would use specially prepared articles pointing to the service which libraries can render business men.

National and state trade associations of practically every kind and in every

line would be glad to hear talks from librarians on what the library can do for the trade association, and a great many of them no doubt would be glad to appoint committees to help work out the problem of making the public library of use to the association.

The part which a central bureau would play in such a matter would be that of suggesting to the librarian the manner for getting upon such programs, and, in the next place, suggesting in a general way how the thing should be presented *from the other fellow's standpoint*. As you well know, the basic principle of advertising and selling is to present the thing from the other fellow's viewpoint—to show what there is in it for him—and yet, the average man, unless he has actually had some experience (and a great many librarians have not), is inclined to think of his side of the case a little too much and not to give sufficient consideration to the other fellow's side.

Such a bureau would do a great deal through the existing library journals. It ought to be possible to make them effective mediums for the exchange of ideas.

In the next place, it ought to be possible for such a bureau to gather from various corners of the country specimens of advertising matter used and to make up a series of a small traveling exhibit from time to time setting forth campaigns in full with details as to just how they were used and what results they brought, pasting the matter into the book.

Such books, duplicated a few times, could be sent on specified routes for examination by libraries which are interested, and they naturally would be built out of the experience of large and small libraries, and would be sent to libraries which were somewhat similar in their situation to libraries which used the material.

It seems to me that there has not been an exchange of ideas on quite a frank enough basis. For example, I was very much interested in some of the advertising matter displayed at the Louisville convention. I happened to compliment one of the librarians there upon a piece of matter and then he told me a little thing that had been quite fatal to its use.

But there was nothing in the exhibit about it. He had not told the committee about this "fly in the ointment."

I suppose I might run on almost indefinitely outlining things which could be done because, comparatively speaking, so little has actually been accomplished along these lines in the past.

A Breach of Confidence

Editor PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

If the following can appear in PUBLIC LIBRARIES, it will please the writer, who feels that unfortunate conditions may result if the practice of the Chicago board of civil service commissioners is applied to other civil service candidates. All news regarding librarians and library activities is entirely proper for use in library periodicals, but I do not feel that the same liberty should be taken elsewhere.

The recent civil service examination for the librarianship of the Chicago public library, in which the writer was a participant, resulted in a surprising degree of publicity which might have proved disconcerting. Such publicity may also prove unfortunate in deterring librarians from submitting their names in future tests when this would be highly important.

To be in charge of the library in the country's second largest city, with its varied activities, doubtless would appeal to many. When the notices were received from the Chicago Board of civil service commissioners, however, some of us were interested in a general way, but were not sufficiently interested personally to respond.

Chicago newspapers showed a fine spirit in their attitude toward the Chicago librarianship and threw themselves into the fight against the alleged plan to have a Chicago politician appointed librarian who had recently resigned from the Chicago Board of Civil Service Commissioners of which he was a member, for this purpose, it was charged.

Suspicion that the library situation was not to be handled on a professional basis if the city administration could control this, was strengthened by other developments.

It was then that a Chicago club of the highest standing and representatives of Chicago's best activities, sent personal requests to several librarians to help make the selection of the librarian a professional and not a political question. Assurances were given that the Chicago board of civil service commissioners had stated that "the applicant's name will not be given publicity so no possible embarrassment will result."

Some of us then submitted our names through this club, after notifying our library boards of the Chicago situation, and a thesis was sent which covered the requirements for the examination.

The library representative on the Examining Board in Chicago was the best selection possible in this country and the final selection for the Chicago librarianship was not only the logical one, but one which will meet the approval of the library profession at large.

We were glad to participate in this examination, irrespective of what the Examining Board's choice would be, but we have not relished the wide publicity given us by the daily press of the country, the night calls from local newspapers, and the attentions showered by publishers of civil service textbooks who have since encouraged us to renewed and future efforts.

To those who are happy and contented in present surroundings and who are not searching for other professional grazing grounds, the unexpected publicity of our well meant efforts are of slight and but temporary irritation. It is easy to realize, however, that such a breach of promise as publishing through the daily press of the country the names of those who submitted their names on special request in a difficult situation, might prove seriously embarrassing to librarians. There are library boards and communities as well which would easily resent participation in examinations for library work elsewhere, particularly without previous notification having been given, and this can be a delicate and difficult thing to do.

CHALMERS HADLEY,
Denver, Colorado.

Not Unique

Editor of PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

The Association of American library schools has sent to library trustees and librarians a circular letter, admirable in purpose, but unfortunately liable to misinterpretation as to the figures quoted in the following paragraph:

Fifty-four members (19 per cent) of the staff of the Reference department of the New York public library resigned during 1917 to take better paid positions, while 154 persons (27 per cent) resigned from the Circulation department during the same time. From the Brooklyn public library 30 persons have resigned during the last year to go into business libraries or to the War department; from the Cleveland public library 24 assistants have left for similar reasons. These figures do not include janitors, pages or mechanical employees.

The figures showing the loss from the staff of the New York public library are not comparable with those quoted for the Brooklyn and Cleveland public libraries which include only the persons who have resigned to go into business libraries or to the War department. The statistics for

the New York public library quoted in this circular letter are those given in our annual report for last year and represent, in the case of the Reference department, the number of employees who left for "better-paid positions," while in the case of the Circulation department, they represent the total number of resignations, excluding janitors, pages or mechanical employees. We have no tabulated statement of how many of them took better-paid positions with the government or with business libraries, nor as to the number who went to other libraries, or got married, or were called home by family duties.

The situation described in the circular letter has, as stated there, "affected directly or indirectly nearly all libraries." It is not a problem confronting one library or one locality. In fact, I know of one public library far from New York which lost 50 per cent of its employees during the same period. Incidentally, I have heard of a railroad that lost 60 per cent; and I believe investigation would show that many commercial enterprises have lost larger percentages of their employees than have the public libraries.

E. H. ANDERSON,
Director.

New York public library.
May 14, 1918.

Gift Acknowledgment

To the Editor of PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

It has always seemed to me a waste of time, printing and postage for a library to acknowledge separately every report, bulletin or list regularly received in exchange from another library. The Cleveland public library has taken a step in the direction of economy by mailing a single postal to "take pleasure in acknowledging the gifts presented to the library during the past year." If more libraries adopted this form there would be fewer waste baskets filled with cards which can surely find no better resting place. Would it be possible to go still further and omit such acknowledgements altogether, considering the exchange itself as sufficient courtesy? Among

librarians, at least, we might have some tacit agreement in regard to this matter.

RAYMOND L. WALKLEY,
Assistant librarian.

Minneapolis public library.

Memoir of Dr J. S. Billings for Distribution

To the Editor:

The New York public library has available for free distribution copies of the "Memoir" of the late Dr John Shaw Billings, librarian of the Surgeon General's office and first director of the New York public library, written by Dr Fielding H. Garrison, and published by Messrs G. P. Putnam's Sons in 1915. Libraries or librarians who wish the book and do not now possess it may secure a copy by forwarding postage to the undersigned. The shipping weight of the book is about three pounds and the parcel post charges will be as follows, according to zone:

Local, 6c; 1, 7c; 2, 7c; 3, 10c; 4, 15c; 5, 20c; 6, 25c; 7, 31c; 8, 36c.

The foreign rate is 12 cents a pound.

H. M. LYDENBERG.

Same Changes in D. C. for Engineering

The Deborah Cook Sayles public library of Pawtucket, R. I., is revamping the Dewey schedules for Engineering in order to bring the classification more into proportion with the books actually on the shelves. In this work it is taking advantage of the new "Proposed classification for an Engineering library" compiled by Eleanor H. Frick and Esther Raymond, which was published in the *Proceedings of the American Society of Civil Engineers* for December, 1917; but it is depending mainly on the advice of local Pawtucket engineers and experts in foundry practice. The aim is to give both mechanical engineering (now numbered 621) and electrical engineering (261.3) a full "division" of ten whole numbers (600-609 and 610-619) so that the notation for those subjects will be proportionate to that for Civil Engineering and its branches (620-629).

The necessary vacuum for such expansion will be secured by removing Medicine (610-619) from the class of Useful Arts entirely and settling it in the 100's (Philosophy) between Psychology and Ethics, where it will be flanked by Bodily Cures (Religion and Medicine, Faith Healing and the like) on the one hand, and by Mental and Moral Training (Child Study, Adolescence, Power of Will) on the other.

W. D. GODDARD.

Printed Cards Available

The University of Chicago library is about to print analytical entries for titles in the following collections not already covered by the cards of the Library of Congress:

1. *Collection des poètes champenois antérieurs au XVIe siècle Reims (etc.)*, 1847-64. 24 vols. There will be 14 titles. L. C. has cards for the following: v. 4-5=11-21001; v. 11=13-26917; v. 14-15=11-3087.
2. *Colección selecta de antiguas novelas españolas*. Madrid, Viuda de Rico. v. 1-12, 1906-1909. There will be 12 titles.
3. *Biblioteca rare, pub. da G. Daelli*. Milano, G. Daelli e comp., 1845-65. 63 vols. There will be 47 titles. L. C. has cards for the following: v. 1=17-13126; v. 2=4-7191 rev.; v. 12=17-24593; v. 16=2-24165; v. 8=17-6312; v. 35=12-10688; v. 41-43=2-28035; v. 60=17-12550; v. 61=17-12549; v. 63=3-26781.

Orders will be received until June 15, 1918. Price 1c per card. Cards will, as usual, include indication of subject headings. The call number, according to Library of Congress classification, will appear at the bottom of the card. Libraries desiring to order should specify the number of sets wanted. All communications may be addressed to the Associate director, the University of Chicago libraries.

A Librarian's Welcome

Mrs Salome Cutler Fairchild, who is living at 6313 Connecticut avenue, Chevy Chase, Md., is glad to see her library friends, whether living in Washington or there temporarily. 'Phone Cleveland 722. Chevy Chase car, between Raymond and Shepherd streets.

Query

A history of the world

Will somebody name a well written, well illustrated comprehensive *history of the world*, suited to the wants of the average reader, young or old, and therefore written in narrative style and covering not exceeding a thousand pages?

This question is passed on to the profession generally because a large number of librarians and pedagogues have given it up. Several school texts and college handbooks have been mentioned, but each and all have proved either impossible or antiquated. Some British and French books have given fair satisfaction at first sight, but a work is needed *here and now* and therefore should give proper heed to *American* history and forms of life.

J. C. B.

A Poor Arrangement

Editor of PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

Our Normal school has a study hall and a library which is near the study hall. Plans are being made to move the library into the study hall. This plan does not seem attractive to me, but it may have advantages. I have been told that normal schools are generally adopting the combination of the study hall and the library. I should be glad to know how this combination works out—its advantages and disadvantages, and methods used.

LIBRARIAN.

Exchange Opportunity

The heirs of the late Judge James V. Campbell have presented to the University of Michigan library the remainder of his "Outlines of the political history of Michigan," published in Detroit in 1876. This is one of the best, if not the best, history of the state of Michigan.

We shall be very glad indeed to send copies on exchange account to other libraries. The books are in good condition and unused.

WM. W. BISHOP, Librarian.

The M. o. t. S.

Editor PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

I note that Mr Wyer in his report on his visit to 16 military camps, to inspect the libraries therein, says (p. 339 L. J.) that:

All our librarians agree that a camp library is a "man's job" calling for the best ability and qualities in our very best men. There is nearly unanimous agreement that women can be largely "used" for assistants and for branches in the base hospitals, and it is gratifying to record that the commanding officers are nearly all willing to allow women to be thus "used".

As all our librarians are men and as nearly all men are of the opinion that man is, in all respects, as far as work is concerned, superior to woman, it is not strange that they all agree that the running of camp libraries is something that can be done by men only. A "man's job", in their minds, means something above and beyond any piece of work that woman has ever attained to.

If Mr Wyer is right in his report, that all librarians in camp libraries think that only men can run a good camp library, then all our men librarians would seem to be generally smug, self-satisfied beings consciously superior to women. Mr Wyer's state of mind in regard to women, as well as that of all camp librarians, is indicated by his phrase to the effect that there is a unanimous agreement that women can "be used". His state of mind toward the whole situation is also indicated by the fact that he is "gratified to learn" that commanding officers are nearly all willing to allow women to "be used."

Dear women. You are not yet fit for "man sized jobs", nor can you be of yourselves "useful", but, if pliant, bid-dable, and intelligently docile, you can "be used." Rejoice and be exceeding glad that nearly all the officers let the *real* librarians "use" you for the service of their, indeed, of your, country.

Yours truly,

BEATRICE WINNER

Newark, N. J.

A Brief Selected List of Books in Accountancy*

For the use of small public and private libraries

I. Elementary and general

Belding, A. G.	Accounts and accounting practice.	Am bk co.	1915	.90
Bennett, R. J.	Corporation accounting.	Ronald	1916	3.50
Bentley, H. C.	Science of accounts.	Ronald	1911	3.00
Cole, W. M.	Accounts; their construction.	Houghton	1915	2.00
Dickinson, A. L.	Accounting practice and procedure.	Ronald	1914	3.00
Esquerré, P. J.	Applied theory of accounts.	Ronald	1914	3.50
Gilman, Stephen	Principles of accounting.	LaSalle ext univ	1916	3.00
Greendlinger, Leo,	and Schulze, J. W.			
	Accounting practice.	Alexander Hamilton inst	1914	
Hatfield, H. R.	Modern accounting.	Appleton	1913	1.75
Kester, R. B.	Accounting theory and practice.	Ronald	1917	2.50
Klein, J. J.	Elements of accounting.	Appleton	1913	1.50
Mitchell, T. W.	Accounting principles.	Alex Hamilton inst	1917	
Reynolds, W. B., and	Thornton, F. W.			
	Duties of the junior accountant.	Am inst ac	1918	1.00
Rowe, H. M.	Bookkeeping and accountancy.	Rowe	1911	1.50
Sprague, C. E.	Philosophy of accounts; 4th ed.	Sprague	1913	3.00
Tipson, F. S.	Theory of accounts; 2d ed.	Mendoza	1913	1.50
Wildman, J. R.	Principles of accounting.	N Y univ bookstore	1914	2.50

II. Auditing

Bentley, H. C.	C. P. A. auditing questions.	Ronald	1914	2.00
Dicksee, L. R.	Auditing. American ed. rev.	Ronald	1909	5.00
Montgomery, R. H.	Auditing; theory and practice; 2d ed. rev.	Ronald	1917	6.00
Racine, S. F.	Guide to the study of auditing; rev.	Western	1916	1.00
Walton, Seymour	Auditing (Pt I of "Modern business," v. 7)	Alexander Hamilton inst	1915	
Wildman, J. R.	Principles of auditing.	Wildman	1916	2.00
.....	Auditing studies.	N Y univ pr	1917	.75

III. Cost accounting

Baugh, F. H.	Principles and practice of cost accounting.	Baugh	1915	3.00
Church, A. H.	Manufacturing costs and accounts.	McGraw-Hill	1917	5.00
Evans, H. A.	Cost keeping and scientific management.	McGraw-Hill	1911	3.00
Franklin, B. A.	Cost reports for executives as a means of plant control.	McGraw-Hill	1913	5.00
* Moxey, E. P.	Principles of factory cost keeping.	Ronald	1913	1.00
Nicholson, J. L.	Cost accounting; theory and practice.	Ronald	1913	4.00
Scovell, C. H.	Cost accounting and burden application.	Appleton	1916	2.00
Thompson, C. B.	How to find factory costs.	Shaw	1917	1.35
Webner, F. E.	Factory costs.	Ronald	1911	6.00

IV. Credit management

Blanton, B. H.	Credit; its principles and practice.	Ronald	1917	2.00
Ettinger, R. P., and	Golieb, D. E. Credits and collections.	N Y univ pr	1917	2.00

Publications of the Alexander Hamilton Institute are sold by the publishers only to their students, and must be bought indirectly if at all by libraries. No price can be quoted. The volume-numbering of their "Modern business" varies.

*Compiled by Mildred Noé Johnson, librarian of the School of Commerce of Northwestern university, and of Illinois Society of certified public accountants

An editorial in the *Cleveland Medical Journal*, in urging that the campaign for books for soldiers and sailors be pressed, said: "Books become the direct ally of the physician. The morale of the army depends on the contentedness of the individual soldier. To restore mental equilibrium, good, interesting books are one adjunct not to be despised."

The Public library at Green Bay, Wis., has a poster in a conspicuous place, bearing the following:

The Pledge

"This library and each and all of its employes are pledged to the national Administration to conduct all educational affairs committed to their care in this library or elsewhere with whole-hearted and unconditional loyalty to the United States."

A splendid example of patriotism.

No New Fiction Till After the War

My Dear PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

I read with interest the note about our library slogan "No new fiction till after the war," in the recent issue of the *Library World*. I do not agree that the kinds of people who are using the trashy fiction of the library are the ones who are so moved by the war that they need relief from the strain. Ordinarily, they are not workers, and they are not thinkers. Imagine any one who has lost a son or has sent any one to the front comforted in the loss by reading Douglas Fairbanks' "Laugh and live," or Pollyanna as the great universal comforter of America at this present day. These books have never been a source of strength and these are the kinds of things we are trying to get "out from under." The demand for them has dominated our libraries and has eaten up our funds.

It is true that my parallel is not a very exact one, but people are asked to save wheat and sugar because there is a world scarcity, but there is a world scarcity of money, or a library scarcity of money, and it is more needed for other things than ever. We must have economy somewhere and if economy can be combined with better library service and an opportunity to afford the books which are really helpful and really stimulating it seems to me it will be an advantage.

The demand for the latest fiction of this trashy sort is largely the result of advertising and if we will buy only real literature, people will read it. There is, of course, a tremendous need of an analysis of the reading habit of the community, and I do not know any library which has made such an analysis. I recently looked over many reports to see if I could find any such thing, but with the exception of formal statistics, no one seems to think it worth while to tell us about the mind of the community and the reading habits, or how they could be improved.

CORNELIA MARVIN,
State librarian of Oregon.

A Big Claim Questioned

A letter from a prominent librarian refers to a work that is handled by E. P. Dutton & Co., as follows:

The ridiculous claim in the Dutton circular respecting Hyamson should not go unchallenged. The introduction to the work states that "the largest biographical work in existence has not a tithe of the entries which this volume contains."

Fortunately specimen pages enabled me to examine this book in detail. Under the heading Ponte there are mentioned in Phillips also a one-line Dictionary of biography, 14 persons of this name. Hyamson only mentions eight. He gives for Lorenzo da Ponte-Italian American poet and librettist, Don Juan 1749-1838. Phillips gives Ponte, Lorenzo L. da American professor of Italian and author, 1805-1840. I am under the impression that Mr Hyamson has combined into one a father and son. Phillips' first column at page 517 is only at the letter "I" and contains 54 names, Hyamson at the same page is already at "P" and his column contains 66. I should be glad to know how it could be attempted to justify the statement in the preface. The circular seems to convey an altogether false impression of the value of the book. Phillips has 1038 pages with an average number of 100 names to a page, giving altogether 103,800. The Hyamson publication has 744 pages, an average of 128 to the page, a total of 95,232.

An Exception Well Taken

Madam Editor:

Some little time ago, The Librarian in the Boston *Transcript* took the following fling at librarians going into office war work at the urgent request of the Government:

What constitutes "war service?" Does a librarian who accepts, at an increased salary, a position as cataloger and filer of cards in a Government bureau, become thereby enrolled among those who are rendering "war service?" One librarian apparently thought so, for she listed the name of this former assistant with that of another assistant who had sailed for France with the Red Cross. But their superior officer took exception to the classification. . . .

That wasn't *nice* of him, was it? You see, there haven't been any training camps to show us how.

ONE OF THEM.

Monthly—Except August
... and September.

Public Libraries

Library Bureau, Publishers
M. E. AHERN, Editor

Subscription - - - - -	\$2 a year	Single number - - - - -	25 cents
Five copies to one library - - - - -	\$8 a year	Foreign subscriptions - - - - -	\$2.25 a year

Entered as second-class matter May 17, 1896, at the Post office at Chicago, Ill., under act of March 3, 1897.

By the rules of the banks of Chicago an Exchange charge of 10 cents is made on all out-of-town checks for \$10 and under. In remitting subscriptions, therefore, checks on New York or Chicago banks or post-office money orders should be sent.

When a change of address is ordered, both the new and the old address must be given. The notice should be sent two weeks before the change is to take effect.

If a subscriber wishes his copy of the magazine discontinued at the expiration of his subscription, notice to that effect should be sent. Otherwise it is assumed that a continuance of the subscription is desired.

Copies failing to reach subscribers, through loss in the mails, will be duplicated without charge if request to do so is received within 30 days after publication. Later than that duplicate copies can be supplied only at regular rates.

Library Service in War Time

"Books on the War"—this is the burden of every statement about books relating to the times.

It usually includes only those books having to do with the causes, events, progress and aims of the war itself. These are essential to a correct understanding of the present. They form the center of every plan of action undertaken or proposed. But there is room for another thought here.

If one should add to this, as occasion offers, those books that have a forward pointing message, it would go far to add to the vision that must come when the war ends. A lack of vision in this particular will cause a dearth of information that will be greatly needed in time, if not at present, and which, if persisted in, will find us unprepared intelligently to realize that safety for democracy for which the war is waged.

Will it not add to our virtue of patriotism, knowledge that will enlarge our value as citizens, to know who are the great civilians, statesmen, writers, artists, preachers, contributing to the fiber of life that makes plain our duty to the soldiers, sailors and those in authority?

To care for the civilian and municipal liberty, is the duty of those who stay

at home. Let the light shine on the plants of civil patriotism so that our soldiers and sailors will come home to a community of honesty, efficiency and unselfish activity that will make the returning heroes feel their sacrifice was worth while.

"The war must be won" means infinitely more than that the selfish, autocratic power of those who wish to impress their individual ideas on the world, regardless of results, must be destroyed. In this part of the battle program, no element in the fray, saving alone the fighting lines, has a better vantage ground than the librarians.

"We are all behind the President now," but sometimes it is so far behind that the presence there counts for little.

Sacrifice and service each has its chroniclers and the story of their achievements are alike not for the shelves of the mausoleum, but for the pages set before the people of the world, that in the days to come neither sacrifice nor service shall have been in vain. These things will have been writ to be known and read by all men. It is the librarians' duty to set the story before them.

Library Salaries

A CIRCULAR letter to library trustees and librarians has been sent out by the Association of American library schools, calling attention to the fact that the better salaries offered in other lines of work are depleting the staffs of libraries throughout the country; also stating that if good people are to be held in library work when trained, libraries must pay salaries at least equal to those offered elsewhere to persons with even less education and special training. The matter is urged upon the attention of library trustees, municipal and state authorities.

The situation referred to is nothing new. It has been in vogue almost from the beginning and it may be frankly stated as a fact that the library schools themselves are in a large measure to blame for the conditions that have obtained. For 20 years, PUBLIC LIBRARIES has been hammering on this point of better salaries for library workers, to be met time and time again with rebuke from members of library school faculties for "creating discontent among library students at the prospect for salaries."

It was just as true earlier as it is today, that it is not a fair proposition to ask library workers who have had four years college course, with one or two years special training, to be content to start with a salary that in most cases was exceeded by that paid, very often, to uneducated, untrained house servants.

If stronger insistence had been put on remuneration for library service by the library schools themselves for the last 25 years, in all probability the standard of equipment of library workers generally would be very much higher than it is today, while the salaries offered in depart-

mental and business offices would be unable to attract library workers as they are doing today. Better library workers were bound to be called for in the places where they have gone and where it has taken money to get them, the money has been forthcoming.

In the annual report of the Public library of Brookline, Mass., just received, the subject of salaries is discussed by Miss Louise Hooper the librarian, as follows:

The general average of library salaries in Brookline is still far below that of our schools. Although it is hard to make a fair comparison of such different callings, certain facts should throw some light on the subject. The teacher works 35 weeks in the year, the library assistant 48. The teacher works 5 days in the week, the library assistant 6. The teacher has her evenings and Sundays free in addition to her Saturdays, while the library assistant has a schedule which calls for both evening and Sunday work. The teacher, in the pension to which she is entitled, looks forward to a substantial help toward support in her old age; the library assistant must depend wholly on her savings for that purpose. It would be interesting to know what a woman can save from a salary of from \$660 to \$1,000 a year when she must support herself entirely and probably help another member of her family. In the judgment of the School Committee, in which the librarian heartily concurs, a woman cannot board in decent comfort in Brookline for less than \$10.50 a week. This amounts to \$550 a year. Add to this \$150 a year for dress, and you have \$770. Allow \$200 for doctor's and dentist's bills, carfares, and other incidentals, and how much can one save from a salary of \$900?

Although it is difficult to compare fairly the professions of teaching and library service, it is not so hard to compare the general intelligence and

education required in the various grades and branches of each. Eight out of 18 assistants on our present staff have had college or library school training, or both. Taking the discrepancies mentioned above into consideration, it seems fair to assume that the heads of departments in the library should be paid as much as the teachers in grades 8 and 9, *i. e.*, \$1,100.00, or at least that they should be paid such a salary when their work is entirely efficient. To continue the comparison, if \$900 is not too much for a kindergarten, whose hours of work are scarcely more than half of the hours of library workers, it would seem none too much to make this the maximum for the assistants in the issue department. It should be noted that these comparisons are made with the school salaries as they are at present.

Library work in general requires sound education, a high grade of intelligence, an inquiring mind, and endless patience. I have been trying since early in October to secure an assistant to fill the vacancy in the issue department. I have been forced to the conclusion that I cannot for less than \$840.00 a year get a beginner to learn the work that the assistants in the issue department have successfully mastered.

This experience has helped greatly to determine a fair scale of salaries. It is perfectly obvious that if we want our library to measure up to our schools in efficiency we must pay salaries

which will attract persons of equal education and training with the teaching staff.

A member of the board of directors of one of our western public libraries registers an urgent plea for better salaries, more reasonable hours and more encouragement to the librarian for further development, as well as a fair opportunity for intellectual and spiritual refreshment and inspiration. Her point is well carried as follows:

The efficiency of a library depends a great deal upon the salary paid the librarian. A woman who devotes part of her life in preparing for her life work, and the rest in building up an efficient and powerful library in her community, deserves a good salary and a word of commendation. Do not be sparing of either. . . . Do not work her to death. A library should be open every day and every evening to get the best results, but 48 hours a week without any relief is too much for efficient work. You expect your librarian to be well-read, broad-minded, tolerant, to reach out and help humanity, to possess a sense of humor, to be alive to the wants and needs of her community, and yet you retain her within the four walls of her building 48 and in many cases more, hours per week. Cut down the time to 44 or 42 hours per week, get some one to substitute so she may attend club meetings, visit schools, take part in the social, religious and civic life of the community. Give her from two to four weeks vacation every year on full pay, so that she may get away from familiar things, see new scenes, meet new people, and get a new inspiration for her work.

Really the laymen seem to watch the late awakening Library school directors. But it is a sign of progress for which to be thankful that though late, the directors are at last going publicly on record.

How Much Does the Library Cost?

An article appeared in the *Boston Transcript* on January 16, 1918. It was an extended discussion of library expenditures illustrated by tables of various amounts said to be used in various cities. It didn't seem correct on the face of it and it did seem probable that some one would call the writer to account. But apparently no one did. Part of the article was published in

PUBLIC LIBRARIES for May. Then several objected—"It is all wrong." It seems unimportant that the public should be misinformed but one must stand well in the family. If the figures are incorrect, as they are, why did not some one "call" *The Transcript*?

"Two wrongs don't make a right." Someone ought to set the matter straight.

Information Clearing House

James C. Moffet of Louisville has joined the ranks of E. F. McPike, G. W. Lee and others in serious consideration of the subject of a clearing house of information. Mr Moffet says:

Why not agitate the organization of a clearing house of information as a permanent department in all public libraries? It is distinctly the work of a public library to mobilize the information in a community, and not that of special librarians as in Boston. At least that is the way it looks to me, a business man with no connection but much interested in our libraries. I read with much interest Mr McPike's article in PUBLIC LIBRARIES for March on "Where's What." But why shouldn't the public library system be made the central agency through which all information could be located?

It would seem that Mr Moffet's idea contains elements of permanency which have been lacking sometimes in other propositions. The machinery is already provided, the material is available—it only remains for the public to make the demand on the library. It is another phase of the business house preferring to have information furnished on a commercial basis rather than patronize the tax supported institutions.

The Post of Duty

Mrs Mary C. Bradford, president, N. E. A., in a recent number of the *General Federation Magazine*, in speaking of what clubs are doing in war service, very pertinently remarks:

As soon as the country entered the war a mistaken idea seemed to become current—that in order to do war service the clubs must undertake new and foreign activities—dropping the old lines of work and searching afield for new. As a matter of fact nothing is more greatly needed than the strengthening and the fortifying of the departmental work as it exists, making it more far-reaching, potent and effective. War creates certain new lines of endeavor, but it mainly attacks the bulwarks of our social and economic structure, creating the imperative need of safeguarding these in every possible way.

This could be applied to library service quite as fittingly as to any other movement of the day. Running away from the opportunity at hand will oftentimes give ground for future regret.

Career of the A. L. A. President

Simultaneously with an inquiry from a librarian in Wisconsin for some information about the president of the American Library Association, is found a resumé of his career in the *News*, Harrisburg, Pa., under date of March 6.

Thomas Lynch Montgomery, State librarian since February 3, 1903, has been reappointed by Governor Brumbaugh. Dr Montgomery has been trustee of the Apprentice's library, Philadelphia, and also of the Free library of Philadelphia, of which institution's library committee he is now the chairman. He established the first library of the system at Wagner Free Institute of Science in 1892. He is a member of a number of Philadelphia historical and library associations. He organized the Pennsylvania library club in 1890 and was one of the founders of the Keystone library association. For 17 years prior to becoming state librarian he was actuary and librarian of Wagner Institute of Science.

Unhappy Times

The group of library workers is not free from disagreeable incidents common in the chaotic state of the times, as is witnessed especially by the recent upheaval of the staff of the Central library of the Portland library association, Oregon.

In checking up the list of municipal employees, the Liberty Loan committee of Portland discovered that M. Louise Hunt, assistant librarian, had not subscribed to any of the Liberty Loans. This led to much unwarranted and harmful discussion in newspapers and meetings, with the result that Miss Hunt resigned. The accusing member of the community apologized for his unwarranted speeches, and reaction brought out much hearty appreciation of the library and its staff, on the part of the community.

A Summer Reading Contest

Between pupils of the schools of Davenport, Iowa.

During the long summer vacation a reading contest between the school children of public and parochial schools was conducted by the Public library in Davenport. It aroused keen interest among the children and brought many new borrowers to the children's room.

Just before vacation, visits were made to each of the schools. The children from the fourth to the eighth grades were told of the contest and invited to enter. It was a contest between schools as well as between children, so that there was the added incentive of working for the honor of one's school.

Posters were made, one for each school, and put on the bulletin boards. When a child entered the contest, his name was printed on his school poster. A gold star was placed after the name for each book read from the approved reading list. To show that he had really read the book, he must bring in a short paragraph about it written by himself. An attractive brownie bookmark was given to each child when the first paragraph was brought in.

The list of books was long, necessarily so, in order that a great many children could be accommodated without too much duplication. The teachers in the schools were much interested and said that they would use books from the list for composition work in the fall.

Certificates were awarded to the children who reported on twelve books, half of which were nonfiction. Double and triple honors could be won by reading additional numbers of books.

There were 336 children who entered the contest. They won 3,079 stars and 106 certificates were awarded to as many children.

The certificates had a picture of the children's room at the top, and below was printed:

Davenport public library. This is to certify that of

School Grade has completed the Public Library reading course for the summer of 1917. Signed by the librarian and children's librarian. A gilt label pasted in the lower left hand corner and embossed with the library stamp made the seal and certificates indicating double and triple honors were further embellished with red and blue ribbons inserted under the seal.

The names of the children winning certificates and the schools represented were published in the daily papers. A plan to have a gathering of all the contestants with stories and public awarding of the certificates had to be given up on account of the epidemic of infantile paralysis which occurred late in the summer.

NORMA LEE PECK,
Children's librarian.

Teaching Attention

An interesting endeavor was that carried on by the children's room of the Public library of Boise, Idaho, entitled "For country and for liberty week." A letter was written to each grade in the eight schools in the city, from the fourth grade up, asking the children to answer a set of questions pertaining to their war activity, telling them at the same time a little about the library, with the underlying principle of increasing interest in the library by the personal touch. The letter said in part: "Answers will be judged by grades and the best ones from each grade published in the *Idaho Daily Statesman* for the benefit of those grown-ups who have no idea how interested you are in the war and how much you are doing. I have found a number of magazine articles on children and the war, which I know will interest you, so if you do not happen to have a library card, this is a very good time to take one out, for aside from the magazine articles, we have over 200 new books and story hours are held every Saturday morning at half past ten for fourth, fifth and sixth graders. I hope you will all call on me in the library very soon."

The results were most interesting; there were 869 replies received. They were frank, natural letters, some decidedly unique and all of great interest as reflecting the patriotic spirit in the homes of Boise. In this number, there was but one that did not reflect in one way or another the spirit of patriotism. The letters were printed just as they were written, for the awards were based on the following points: first, the child's activity; second, composition; third, writing.

The plan proved so successful in inciting greater interest in patriotic work among the children, that the State committee in charge of the sale of Thrift stamps devised a similar plan to encourage the sale by inviting the children to write letters to the committee every week, telling how they had earned the money to buy the stamps.

As to the Children's room, the letter plan succeeded beyond all expectations. The increase in new applications and the circulation was marked. An increase in issue of nearly 600 v. a month for two months followed the letters. During the week, the letters were exhibited in the children's room, with a very unusual display of Junior Red Cross work done in the grades under the supervision of the instructor of art. One remarkable feature was the knitting of the boys. The best cap for a Belgian baby, for instance, was the work of an eighth grader.

What Does the Library Add?

No one can tell just what a free public library does for the city which supports it. One can point to the pleasure it gives to those who use it; but this is a very vague and general product, of the nature indeed of the pleasure given by a public park or a smooth pavement. One can point now and then to a specific case of a person who is definitely helped by the facts and opinions found in the library's books; but cases of this kind are rather rare and are much like those which a good daily newspaper could number by thousands.

Let the question be—"Just how much is added by a public library to a

city's enlightening and civility; to the breadth of its views and to refinement of its daily life; to the reasonableness of its conduct and to the depth and richness of its feelings?" Let this be the question and no answer can be given.

Perhaps it is better so. Perhaps it is wise merely to refer to the fact that in most cases, the best cities have the best libraries and the libraries that are most used and most generously supported, and leave each inquirer to make his choice between two conclusions.—that the good libraries help to make the good cities, or that the good cities insist on having good libraries;—not forgetting that in some cases, poor cities have good libraries thrust upon them.

With this question of what a library does to its city goes quite naturally the question of what a city does with its library. A library can tell and usually does once a year, as we do, how many books and of what kinds the city took home to read in the preceding twelve months. But we who are on the inside know that while these figures are gratifying to our pride as managers, they are not satisfying to our curiosity, which keeps us continually asking, "Well, what of it?"—*Annual report of Public library, Newark, N. J.*

A very important and enlightening collection of information is issued in the *University of Illinois Bulletin* for April 8, 1918. "What every one should know about war legislation," by Dr R. E. Cushman of the Political Science department, sets forth the war legislation, what the law requires us to do, what the law forbids us to do and what the nation asks us to do. The information it contains is definite, clear and important. Its dissemination should produce both patriotism and results of the highest importance. The slogan of the *Bulletin* is:

Don't find fault with the law and the Government in this crisis!

Obeys them!

Soldiers' Book Drive

Nashville, Tenn.

Returns of the drive for soldiers' books which recently swept the country from ocean to ocean, from east to west and north to south, were of peculiar interest. It formed a reflex of many minds toward one particular object and would prove an interesting study were there time and space to so treat it.

Perhaps the most striking point of the Nashville drive was the presentation of a certain four or five rather dilapidated volumes, the property of the public library itself. Dating slips and pockets were torn out and pasted over but the ever faithful perforating stamp made the revelation.

The charming naiveté exhibited in writing the name and address of the donor and sending the volumes direct to the public library itself should not be passed over.

It can be said that the Nashville drive amply justified the designation of this city as the Athens of the South.

Publicity was unusually good. The Nashville Railway and Light Company, window dressers of big dry goods stores, men of every prominent club and firm in town and the best advertising material and talent of Nashville lent themselves to treating the people of Nashville to a regular shower of confetti of publicity. Everywhere you went, you saw it. If you opened a bundle, or sat down to service in church, read a letter, or conversed with a friend, you met a leaflet. Wherever the eye might turn in any place or institution or the progress thereto in an auto or on a street car, a placard or a poster stared them in the face. The signal poster was good, but every heart went down before the soldier with his stack of books. It will live in history. And the little book-plate with stack and soldiers on it is a gem to be cherished above all earthly possessions.

The press were prodigal. The coveted front page column so desired and so difficult of compass became the regular everyday affair. The holy of holies, the sacred forbidden "corner on" information, the

editorial column, became a library shelf, so much did it contain of books. Streamers, block-ins and ads within ads were so numerous that the pages seemed blank later when they were withdrawn.

The *Nashville Banner, Tennessean* and other of the press placed book drive news alongside of the news from France. Merchants complained that the window dressers spent too much time on the book drive window displays and the general public was deterred from purchase by their inspection.

The books began to pour in. The library could not begin to contain the volumes collected by men's and women's organizations. A vacant store was loaned to hold the additional volumes. This store had light fixtures loaned by one firm and tables and chairs by another. To date the volumes collected number something over 42,518. There are still to be collected those which will bring it near 44,000 volumes.

Club women who know literature have given their services for sorting the 30,000 collection. This is finished. At the main building the 12,518 volumes were turned over to the catalog department, a force of three who have given their entire time to these volumes. In the three weeks these volumes have been sorted, pocketed and carded and the shelf cards made for the non-fiction. Outside volunteer work helped with the pockets. Nearly one-half of these volumes are packed, nailed and addressed. Two prominent publishing houses, the Baptist Publishing House and the Methodist Publishing House, have loaned their professional packers and the Y. M. C. A. boys have helped some. A stampede occurred one afternoon when it was discovered that soldier boys were assisting in the packing room. The entire staff wanted to pack.

The assistant who has charge of obtaining donated boxes has packed the lower hall with boxes about the size desired. One firm made and donated 25 boxes, beautiful finish, exact A. L. A. size.

The cataloging force is now engaged on the first installment of books for the 30,000 outside collection.

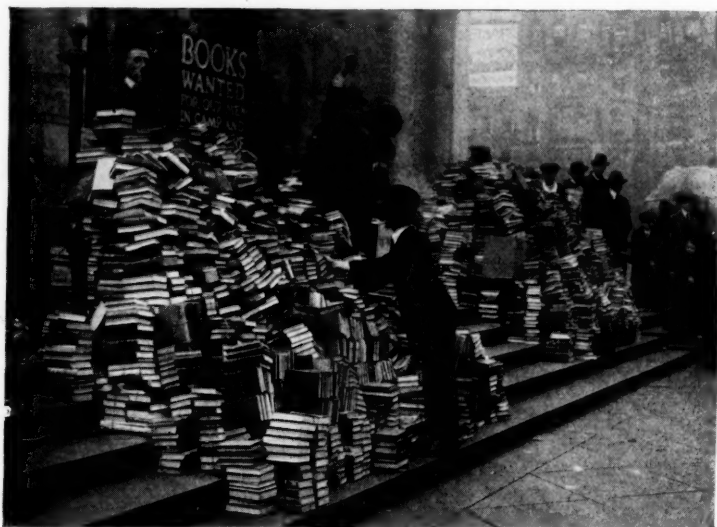
It remains to be said that the sorting has revealed a quality of volumes which is beyond expectation.

For the 12,500 volumes at the main building there is much, of course, in standards, poetry, essays, novels, and short stories; a good per cent of history, biography, text-books of the English and French languages and other text-books including graded books for five or six grades. These were included for the

schools at camps, as were simpler stories for those learning to read. Handsome and worth while sets of volumes were donated. The books were surprisingly clean and in good condition and many of them perfectly new.

If the 30,000 volumes yet to be handled by the library force is on a par with the first 12,518 it will be a collection of which any city might be proud.

M. M. K.



The terrace in front of the Central building, New York public library, was utilized by the institution during the campaign for books for soldiers and sailors. The campaign was a success of course, as it was in most libraries over the country, the remarkable thing being the unwonted spectacle of the library coming out on to the sidewalk of Fifth avenue. Surely, this street never saw anything like that before. A fifteen-foot reproduction of the attractive poster by Mr C. D. Falls was placed in front of the library, with bins on either side to receive the books, but in a very short time each day, these bins would be hidden from view by thousands of volumes heaped up in piles on either side.

Mr Hopper, Mr Gaillard and other members of the staff organized the drive, but were assisted by outside talent in many lines in carrying it on.

Of course libraries all over the country deserve mention for the fine work they did also, but somehow the unusual spectacular performance on busy Fifth avenue is harder to realize than the work of almost any other library. The popular Mr John Foster Carr, with a megaphone, made good use of that "r" in his speech which has entertained so largely many of his hearers in his lectures, in attracting the attention of the passers-by, with his call to "R-r-r-rummage among your books!" and other telling messages sent out over the heads of the crowd resulting

in a very material increase in the number of books. Mr Carr gave his time for three weeks to managing the publicity work. Robert Underwood Johnson also handled the megaphone. He was also of great assistance in obtaining newspaper publicity for the work.

In Chattanooga, the householders who had books ready for the book collectors, were requested to hang out a white flag. If the flag was displayed, the Boy Scouts called for the books. If not displayed, the boys called to see why.

Mr Theodore Roosevelt presented a large number of copies of three books, "Our mutual friend," "The Antiquary" and "Guy Mannering."

He said of them: "They teach both manliness and decency," specifying "The Antiquary" and "Guy Mannering" as the best for soldiers. Each copy contained the following note:

To the men who are going overseas to fight for the honor and interest of America and of all mankind, and who thereby make all other Americans forever their debtors.
Theodore Roosevelt.

April 6th, 1918.

The American people gave over three million books to the soldiers and sailors in the recent book drive conducted by the American Library Association. The returns are not complete. Increasing totals are being reported from every state.

The total figure far exceeds all expectations of all librarians. And the high quality of the gift books is likewise a surprise.

The state of New York reports 587,292 books collected; Ohio, 226,260; New Jersey, 198,408; Pennsylvania, 188,760; Massachusetts, 154,763; and Illinois, 145,005. Among the cities New York (including Brooklyn and boroughs) led with 354,733, followed by Chicago and Cleveland with 80,000 each, and Pittsburgh 76,000 volumes. Several of the western states and many southern cities exceeded their quotas. Wyoming reports 14,896 and Nashville, Tenn., 48,794.

The population of Sioux City, Ia., is 65,000 and the book drive resulted in 22,658 v. Of these, the graded schools

supplied 6,000; the high schools over 3,000 and the laundry wagons gathered 5,563.

Des Moines reports a total of 11,279 books for soldiers during the campaign.

Los Angeles reports a collection of 70,000 books, of which 12,000 were sent to Camp Kearny, 10,000 to Camp Cody, 1,000 to Nogales, Ariz., 1,000 to the Naval training camp, San Diego, and several thousand to the camps at San Pedro harbor. About 15,000 of the collection will be thrown into the discard.

But columns and monuments of books cannot long withstand army and navy usage. Books soon wear out in camp or on deck. The American public still has an opportunity to "help make better soldiers out of the men and make better men out of the soldiers," by giving good books.

Under instructions issued by Secretary Daniels, chaplains on navy vessels will have charge of ships' libraries.

A touching little poem, which appeared first in the *New York Tribune*, is given on page 1 of *Branch Library News* for April. It is entitled "For the Soldiers," and is introduced with a Scriptural quotation: "Neither will I offer . . . that which cost me nothing." The first and last stanzas are as follows:

I send my books to you, O brave men
bearing
The world's great burden with undaunted
eyes,
For in some little way would I be sharing
Your spirit of unquestioning sacrifice.

And these books were my loves; I held each
dearly,
Even as another holds his wife and child;
Or as a friend whose wisdom counsels
clearly;
Or as some kindly wizard who be-
guiled . . .

So take my books, with all their varied
graces—
The prophet's sight, the poet's ecstasy,
I shall not grieve to see their empty places
If they are half to you they were to me.

F. I. B.

He who comes up to his own idea of greatness must have a low standard in his mind.—*Hazlitt*.

Library War Service

The last returns on book collections indicate that thousands over three million books have been donated and that the number will reach four millions within a few weeks.

Miss Ethel McCollough, librarian at Evansville, Indiana, arrived in El Paso on May 10, to organize and manage a traveling library system for the troops along the Mexican Border. This territory, with headquarters at El Paso, will extend from the vicinity of Deming, New Mexico, to and including the "Big Bend" district.

Miss Harriet Long, librarian of the Brumback library, Van Wert, Ohio, is in charge of the border section east of the "Big Bend" district, with headquarters at San Antonio, Texas.

C. E. Rush, librarian, Indianapolis public library, has been called to headquarters in Washington, to assist in the publicity work which was started by Mr Burton E. Stevenson before leaving for Europe.

Willis H. Kerr, State normal school, Emporia, Kans., who has been librarian at Camp Funston for several months, joined the force at Headquarters early in June.

Nearly 50,000 volumes were shipped to France during March.

Approximately 163,000 books have been sent to France by the Library Service up to the middle of May.

Transportation and warehouse space are being supplied by the army.

Special collections of books on technical subjects are being made up for overseas shipment. Each collection will be put in a separate box which will be marked to show the contents. And every box so marked will contain exactly the same books.

It will be possible to send forward to the proper destination the technical books, without opening the boxes.

The preliminary order for this shipment comprised from 10 to 50 sets of from 25 to 50 v. on the following subjects:

Automobiles, Aviation, Electricity,

Military, Naval, Railroads, Sanitation, General technical.

Book service from Headquarters is now reaching over 70 army and navy hospitals and Red Cross convalescent houses, and 20 civilian hospitals caring for army and navy men. At a camp or post where there is a library, the hospital library is managed as a branch of the camp library. But at the large base or general hospitals where there is no camp library, permanent collections of books are needed and trained librarians placed in charge.

Any prejudice that existed in the minds of the military concerning women at camp libraries fell as the chaff before the wind when the hospital library was mentioned.

Women are employed as nurses in all the base hospitals, so difficulties of living which are well nigh insurmountable at some of the camp libraries are easily overcome at hospitals where living can be arranged for with the nurses.

Training for hospital librarians will probably be given in a short course at Simmons college during the summer session, July 9-August 16. This will be under the direction of Miss Jones of the McLean Hospital and will include practice work in Massachusetts hospitals. This will provide a corps of trained workers who may be able to enlist for the duration of the war.

For hospital work in France, Miss Jones of McLean hospital spent a week in April at Hoboken working with Mr Dickinson on selection of 25,000 books to be turned over to the Red Cross.

The General Director of the Library War Service, Dr Herbert Putnam, addressed the General federation of Women's clubs at Hot Springs, Ark., on May 7.

An exhibit illustrating the war work carried on by the A. L. A. created much interest.

A note from Dr Chalmers Hadley, who is investigating the book needs of the soldiers along the Mexican border, emphasizes the need for traveling libraries. He quotes a high authority as saying: "Of all lacks along the border, the greatest is a supply of good books. The men

are actually reading dictionaries!" Dr Hadley closes by saying:

It is vastly different to find thousands of men requesting books, and hanging on a promise of some, as compared to flaunting your wares in a city library in the faces of well provided readers. Everyone here is so responsive and eager to get books! It will be a great misfortune to the men and a lost opportunity to the A. L. A. if the traveling libraries are not provided.

Wanted—Baedeker's guidebooks to the countries of western Europe are badly needed to give officers and men detailed information to help them adapt themselves to their surroundings there. Most of these books are not for sale and so must be given. They will be a great help and are wanted at once. Librarians are asked to search their communities, get all they can and send at once to an A. L. A. Dispatch office.

The following note of commendation repays hours of labor, both physical and mental, in the drive for furnishing books for the soldiers. It is a long-standing principle that librarians do not work for pay—still, they enjoy it when they get it.

War Department

Commission on Training Camp Activities
Washington

March 25, 1918.

Dr Herbert Putnam,
Library of Congress,
Washington, D. C.

My Dear Dr Putnam:

I want to express to you our appreciation of the excellent service rendered by the American Library Association in the training camps. The work is going splendidly and we are constantly in receipt of enthusiastic comments from commanding officers and others. I do not know of a greater service to the men at the present time than the one which you are so effectively carrying on. The district directors of the Commission, who are constantly in touch with all the camps in the United States, have nothing but praise for the work and for the fine co-operative spirit in which it is carried on, and the War Department is proud to be associated with an activity that means so much in rationalizing the lives of our men.

Please do not hesitate to call on me if I can be of any assistance in furthering this activity.

Yours truly,
Raymond B. Fosdick,
Chairman.

What has been done

Library war fund, \$1,700,000.
36 camp library buildings erected.
117 librarians now in the field.
464 camps, stations and vessels served.
109,403 selected books sent overseas.
300,000 books purchased, largely technical.
1,349,000 gift books sent to camps and stations.
5,000,000 magazines distributed systematically.

Personnel

Miss E. Gertrude Avey, of Cincinnati, is serving as hospital librarian at Ft. McPherson hospital, Atlanta, Ga.

Miss Mary Dale, librarian of the Los Angeles county hospital, has been given leave of absence to serve as hospital librarian at Camp Kearny.

Mrs I. A. Kidder, librarian at Cornwallis, Oregon, is in charge of the hospital library at Camp Lewis.

Miss Mary Lonyo, formerly on the Detroit public library staff, is hospital librarian at Camp Wheeler.

Miss Marjorie Quigley, librarian of the Divoll branch, St. Louis public library, has been released to serve as hospital librarian, Camp Funston.

Miss Marie F. Wait, of the Princeton University library, is hospital librarian at Camp Greene.

Louis J. Bailey, librarian of the Public library, Gary, Ind., is now in charge of the Dispatch Office at 31 West 15th Street, New York City.

Miss Emma V. Baldwin of the Brooklyn public library, will be at Headquarters for a few weeks following May 23, assisting especially in the compilation of a handbook of Camp Library practice.

C. H. Brown, assistant librarian, Brooklyn public library, is organizing the library service at army and navy stations in the vicinity of Brooklyn.

Earl W. Browning, librarian of the Public library, Niagara Falls, N. Y., is organizing library service in the naval stations in the vicinity of Charleston and Paris Island, S. C.

Miss Miriam E. Carey has been appointed Field director of all hospital library work in Tennessee, North and South Carolina, Georgia, Florida and Alabama. Her headquarters will be at Atlanta.

Jesse Cunningham has been released by the Public library, St. Joseph, Mo., for a few weeks' service as librarian at Camp Grant.

W. H. Duncan, librarian Commercial high school, Brooklyn, N. Y., has been appointed

librarian at Camp Greene for several months.

C. W. Foss, reference librarian of the Brooklyn public library, has been appointed librarian at Camp Mills.

Miss Blanche Galloway is serving as library organizer at Pelham Bay Park, N. Y., training camp.

W. H. Hepburn, librarian of Purdue university, Lafayette, Ind., has been released by his library for several months to serve as camp librarian, Camp Humphreys, Va., a new engineering camp.

Miss Marion Humble has been released for a few weeks by the Detroit public library and is assisting at Headquarters.

Mrs V. G. Humphrey, formerly institutional librarian in Nebraska, is organizing the library service at the Ft. Bliss hospital, El Paso, Tex.

Samuel H. Ranck, librarian of the Public library, Grand Rapids, Mich., is serving as librarian at Camp Custer during the absence of Mr J. S. Cleavinger for about one month.

John C. Sickley, librarian of the Adriance Memorial library, Poughkeepsie, N. Y., is librarian at Camp Wadsworth.

Truman R. Temple, who has been librarian at Camp Grant, will become a field or district representative for the Library War Service about June 1.

Frank H. Whitmore, librarian of Public library, Brockton, Mass., is serving as camp librarian at Camp Devens, Mass.

Purd B. Wright, librarian, Kansas City, Mo., has been serving as librarian at Camp Funston during Mr Kerr's absence.

Malcolm G. Wyer, librarian of the Nebraska university, has joined the staff at Headquarters in Washington.

Camp Library Letters

Camp Custer, Michigan

An analysis of the circulation of a recent small but typical day at the Central library disclosed the following:

Philosophy—Haeckel, Riddle of the Universe.

Religion—One book on Theosophy, one on Christian Science and Peters, Jews in America.

Military—Six military manuals.

Language—Three volumes on English for foreigners; two text books in French; one French novel, and one each of Italian, Polish and Yiddish.

Science—Two books on mathematics and one on botany.

Useful Arts—Four automobile books; one on aeroplanes, one on telegraphy; two on sex hygiene; one each on pathology, therapeutics, business English, pack trains, building construction, and military explosives.

Literature—One volume of essays and three of Service's poems.

History and Travel—One volume of Travel in Russia; two United States histories; two Geographies, and four War books, of which three were copies of Private Peat.

There were 64 books of fiction given out.

A record of some of the requests made at the desk on the same day was kept, and within a few hours included the following subjects, no two of them asked for by the same borrower:

An article on the Enfield Springfield rifle in a recent number of *Recreation*.

A book on telepathy.

The Government Order providing for an examination of applicants for appointment as second lieutenants in the Philippine Scouts.

Kipling's poem, "When earth's last picture is painted," wanted for memorization.

The best available text for elementary French.

A book on the development of will power.

An advanced English reader for foreigners.

Texts on United States history, and geography, to be used in preparation for an examination.

A railroad map of Michigan.

A Latin dictionary.

Books on sex hygiene.

A book on storage batteries.

A method of constructing a pile driver.

Books in foreign languages have arrived and it is interesting to see the eagerness with which these are taken out as soon as they are available. The library already has books in French, Italian, Spanish and Yiddish, and others on the way are in Bohemian, Polish, Modern Greek, Russian and Roumanian.

An interesting recent development of the work is the establishment of small collections in the contagious wards at the Base hospital. There have been numerous cases of the minor contagious diseases in the camp, and the men in the isolation wards have been furnished books from the library. These are made up into special groups for each ward, so marked that the books once placed are not removed from that ward. The books, chiefly novels, are eagerly read over and over again by the men who must stay often many days after they are no longer really sick. These figures, of course, cannot be shown in circulation statistics. A total of between 500 and 600 volumes has been set aside for this use.

J. S. CLEAVINGER.

Camp Doniphan, Okla.

At present we are visiting each train that leaves and we place a bundle of from 20 to 30 magazines in each coach just before the train starts. We offer a book to each man who will undertake to carry one through in his kit, but in the excitement of leaving, not many avail themselves of the offer. It appears that 3,000 or 4,000 may be taken this way. My

own belief is that it is far better to provide magazines for use on trains and let the transport question be cared for from point of embarkation.

We had no formal opening; the General, with an aide, made his formal visit and I am happy to say he has been a frequent visitor. Since the first day of opening we have been crowded to capacity. Reference work has developed more quickly than might have been anticipated; during evenings and holiday afternoons my time is taken entirely with work of this sort. Among the officers who make extensive use of the military collection are the French and British. These latter come in daily, and no one is more appreciative than they.

Except for an indefinite number of company stations, our branch system is practically complete. We have installed 55 branches and stations ranging in volumes all the way from 20 in an outpost to 1,400 in a live branch—12,000 in all. We are working now on a technical library for the School of Aerial Observation and I expect it to become the most important outside the main library.

For the first time in six months I feel that the pioneering is over. In many respects it was not only pioneering but frontier life. For our professional work tools were as scarce and crude as those used by the first settlers in the mid-west; nothing could be bought locally and with the congestion of traffic it seemed that material shipped from the East came about as slowly as though drawn by oxen; we had to battle first with the heat, then with blizzards, water was scarce, and living out of doors as we were the "Sooners" were not more dependent on the elements than we. That is why I said I doubted if but rarely there came to librarians such an opportunity; for in this great tented city thousands of men (magnificent, all of them) were undergoing what up to the present time was the sternest test of their lives and they were particularly receptive to what the American library association had to offer. We scarcely could have foreseen the demand for books; neither, had we ever thought of it, could we have anticipated the appreciation which men are quick to express.

L. L. D.

A half hour in Camp Grant library

I have been thinking for a long time how I might convey to the librarians outside the Camp an idea of the usefulness of the work done here and the inspiring, yes, at times almost intoxicating effect upon the men who are in it. If it were not so vital and stimulating one could not by any possibility stand up under the strain of long hours and intensive effort. Last evening I chose a time when we are usually at our busiest and for a half hour I laid aside the book cards as they were charged together at times with a written word or two that might serve to jog my memory. From these I am sketching a cross section of our activities.

The first man to come to the desk was a Sergeant who brought two volumes of McCutcheon and one of Zane Grey. And, by the way, we simply cannot get enough of Zane Grey's books. They are far and away the most popular among the works of fiction. The Sergeant remarked: "I am on guard every other night and these will last me just six days. A man would go crazy without something to read." A Sergeant does not walk post like the men under him, but must remain awake ready for any emergency that may arise.

Following him within a minute came a Lieutenant who took *Aeroplane design and Fales' Learning to fly*; a private who took a French-English manual and the Soldier's service dictionary; another who took *La France aujourd'hui*, and a third who signed for Torchy and Montgomery's American history, the second copy which I had loaned during the day. As I was busying myself with these men I heard one boy say to another as he looked contentedly about the room, "Don't it make a fellow hungry to see all these books around here. Its just like when you see a lot of eats and can't swallow it all." What busy librarian has not had the same feeling?

A young officer then came to the desk to take out Andrew's Leadership and military training and Hay's All in it. He proved to be very ready to talk books and was grateful to be introduced to Freytag's Deductions from the Great War which was just out. When told the nature of the book and the authority of the author he was eager to add it to his list. One of the distressing things about camp work is to realize to what an extent one can direct the reading of the men if one could only find the time to read more deeply into these new books.

During the lull which followed I turned to certain desk work. I became conscious of some one waiting near to speak. It was a boyish chap who quietly asked, "Where do the funds come from to keep this going?" When told he added, "I certainly appreciate this. Its just great to come over here. You bet it helps to break up some pretty long evenings."

An officer strolled up to the desk to talk about an article on ballistics in *The Infantry Journal*. While listening to him out of one ear I charged for two privates respectively, Hewlett's Ruinous face and O. Henry's Four million. The latter is next in popularity to Grey. Then I showed the officer what a wealth of material we had on ballistics and he remarked, "I'm just beginning to realize what I have missed. I'm coming in here more after this. I wish I had got the habit sooner."

Musgrave's Under four flags for France was the next loan; and then followed a private in artillery who took a copy of Topography, map reading and reconnaissances which had been laid out on our display table, that is used in lieu of a book trough. When asked if he had seen Sherrill's book on the subject he showed decided interest. At the sight of three or four other titles he exclaimed: "Why

I just picked this one up by chance. I didn't dream that you had so many books. I just wish we could take you along with us when we start on our hike up to the artillery range at Sparta next week." Next man asked for a book on physics, type of a large class of men who are studying systematically.

Last came a young fellow with the blue hat cord of the infantryman who bent over me at my desk to inquire, "You don't have anything on the Enfield rifle do you, sir?" Note the "Sir": it's typical. There is nothing servile about it—it is just the fine military courtesy that so quickly gets hold of the men. He continued, "We have plenty on the Springfield, but there's nothing on the Enfield." I happened to think of a neglected copy of "United States rifles." Together we ran through the index and as we lighted on a few pages on the subject he exclaimed, "There it is. Gee, I didn't think you'd have it. Can I sign up for it?" And he started for his barracks fairly hugging the book in delight.

The half hour was up. It was hardly typical in the proportion of fiction and non-fiction that we are putting out. But the percentage of fiction for the day was only 29, and it must be remembered that we do not pad our nonfiction figures with magazines and children's fairy tales. Four men out of five come to the desk with a clear cut problem which we can help solve. Is it any wonder that a feeling of dismay strikes one at the thought of going back to dishing out fiction to a public one-half of whom never get past the seven day case?

T. R. TEMPLE.

A great western opportunity

Over forty-three thousand young men have passed through the United States naval training station at Great Lakes, Illinois, since the United States entered the war. This western clearing house presents great opportunities for "bringing the right book to the right man." And these opportunities are great because of the nature of the camp life at this big land-station of the Navy.

In the first place, all new recruits are kept in detention camps for the first 21 days of their stay. The new men are not permitted to step outside of their respective camps during these three weeks. Hence, while shut off from outside attractions, the printed page appeals more to them than at former times. Large numbers of recruits are becoming recruits also to good reading matter through this process of entering the Navy.

The Y. M. C. A. recognized the opportunities here very soon after Uncle Sam joined in the War. And within a very short time the Y. M. C. A. secretaries were distributing good literature through these Detention Barracks. A little later the Y. M. C. A. placed collections of books in each one of the barracks in these camps and started a system of rotating these collections so that a fresh supply would be on hand each week. Much pioneer work was done in the camps before the A. L. A. began its service in them and has a definite value in the present effort and in the operation of it.

Upon leaving the detention camps the new men go to some camp in which are located schools for various branches of naval training. They remain in the new camp for a limited time and then pass to a final detention camp before "going to sea." Sometimes it is necessary in the training process to transfer a man or a group from one camp to another more often than stated above. Hence there is not time in many cases for long-continued educational methods. But there is time to present to attention the "right book."

Because of local regulations all men cannot leave their respective camps to go to a library building located in any one camp. Hence it is necessary to "take the book to the man." For this purpose the Y. M. C. A. buildings are well located in all camps. Through the hands of the secretaries, tons of magazines and books have been handed out. From a recruit's first day until the last the "Y" secretary seeks to serve; and not the least way is through good literature.

For all believers in the power of literature the opportunities at Great Lakes are manifest. To furnish quantities of such material is worthy of the earnest work of the A. L. A. Pioneer work has been done by the Y. M. C. A. since Uncle Sam entered the war. And the resources of the A. L. A. are welcomed in the great service possible for the brave thousands who pass this way on their way to war.

PIONEER WORKER.

American Library Institute

As a result of the recent election to membership in the American Library Institute, the following memberships were achieved:

Member of the Board:

Charles Henry Gould

Librarian, McGill university, Montreal

For reelection for a term of ten years:

Dr. Arthur Elmore Bostwick

Librarian, Public library, St. Louis, Mo.

Samuel Swett Green

Librarian emeritus, Public library, Worcester, Mass.

For election as new Fellows:

William Warner Bishop

Librarian, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich.

Clarence Saunders Brigham

Librarian, American antiquarian society, Worcester, Mass.

Thomas Franklin Currier

Assistant librarian, Harvard College library, Cambridge, Mass.

E. A. Hardy

Secretary, Ontario library association, Toronto

Frederick C. Hicks

Law librarian, Columbia University, New York City

Richard H. Johnston

Librarian, Bureau of Railway Economics, Washington, D. C.

A. G. S. Josephson

Chief cataloger, John Crerar library, Chicago

Harry M. Lydenberg

Reference librarian, New York public library

William Stetson Merrill

Chief classifier, The Newberry library, Chicago

Amy Louise Reed

Librarian, Vassar college, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

Henry O. Severance

Librarian, University of Missouri, Columbia

Henry B. Van Hoesen

Assistant librarian, Princeton university, Princeton, N. J.

Frank Keller Walter

Vice-director, N. Y. State library school, Albany, N. Y.

Phineas Lawrence Windsor

Librarian, University of Illinois, Urbana, Ill.

W. N. C. CARLTON,

Secretary.

American Library Association

Program of Saratoga meeting, July 1-6, 1918

General sessions

First session, Monday, July 1, 8 p. m.

Call to order by the President.

Address of welcome—Thomas E. Finegan, Deputy Commissioner of education for New York state.

President's address: Civilization—Thomas Lynch Montgomery, librarian, Pennsylvania state library.

Informal reception in the ball room of the Grand Union hotel.

Second session, Tuesday, July 2, 9:30 a. m.

Reports of officers and committees.

Most of the reports will be printed in advance and distributed to members, and will be read only by title and ordered printed as a part of the Proceedings.

Report of the War Service committee. The report will include those of the chairman of the committee, J. I. Wyer, Jr.; the chairman of the Sub-committee on finance, Dr Frank P. Hill; and of Dr Herbert Putnam, general director of the Library War Service. The reports will be printed in advance and only brief oral summaries will be presented at this session.

Camp Library symposium. Conducted by Carl H. Milam, assistant to the Director, Library War Service.

1. What men read—

a) In camps—M. S. Dudgeon

b) In hospitals—Miriam E. Carey

2. Sending books "over there"—

W. H. Brett

Asa Don Dickinson

3. How the camp library reaches every man—

Joy E. Morgan

Frederick Goodell

4. A day in camp—

Lloyd W. Josselyn

John A. Lowe

5. Is it worth while?

Adam Stroh

An opportunity will be given for the general discussion of each topic.

Third session, Wednesday, July 3, 9:30 a. m.

Business.

Libraries and the U. S. Food Administration—a brief statement by Edith Guerrier, director of the Library section of the Food Administration.

What our library is doing to help win the war—a symposium.

1. The county and rural library—Mary L. Titcomb, Washington County free library, Hagerstown, Md.

2. The city library—Hiller C. Wellman, City library, Springfield, Mass.

3. The state library—J. I. Wyer, Jr., New York state library.

4. The university library—J. C. M. Hanson, University of Chicago libraries.

What Canadian libraries are doing to help win the war—George H. Locke, Toronto public library.

Fourth session, Thursday, July 4, 2:30 p. m. Conference "Sing"—Led by Chrystal Brown, Y. M. C. A. song leader, Camp Lee, Va.

Poems of the war: Author's readings—Carl Sandburg, Chicago.

Address—(Speaker to be announced).

Fifth session, Friday, July 5, 9:30 a. m.

The future of library work—Arthur E. Bostwick, St. Louis public library.

The spirit of the war literature:

a) Poetry—May Massee, editor *The Book-list*.

b) Prose—George F. Bowerman, Public library of the District of Columbia.

Memorial resolutions for

James L. Gillis

Henry E. Legler

Report of the committee on resolutions.

Report of the tellers of election.

Unfinished business.

Adjournment.

Hotel rates and other arrangements

Headquarters will be the Grand Union hotel, 680 rooms, American plan, \$5 to \$7 a day, according to accommodation.

Hotel American, close by Grand Union hotel, capacity 250 rooms, American plan, rates \$3 to \$4 a day.

Summer Rest cottages, 5 or 8 minutes' walk from Grand Union hotel, American plan, \$2.50 up.

Correspondence concerning all hotel reservations will be handled by a representative of the A. L. A., who should be addressed: American Library Association, Care Manager, Grand Union Hotel, Saratoga Springs, N. Y.

Reservations can be made direct with hotel if preferred.

Members who arrange to stop elsewhere than at the hotels listed, are requested to notify the Saratoga Springs representative of the A. L. A., so that their names may appear in the advance register of attendance.

In writing for reservation, state clearly your desire as to price of room, time of arrival and other facts which will assist in assigning you satisfactory quarters. Be sure to sign your name in full.

Committees of the Association desiring space should communicate with the secretary of the A. L. A.

Arrangements for space for commercial exhibits should be made direct with the manager of the Grand Union hotel

Advance attendance register

An advance attendance register will be printed as usual. The list will be compiled from hotel bookings made through the A. L. A. representative at Saratoga Springs. All who expect to attend and do *not* make their hotel reservation through the above agency should send name, library position, home address and Saratoga Springs address, not later than June 20, to American Library Association, Care Manager, Grand Union Hotel, Saratoga Springs, N. Y.

Library school dinners

Library school dinners will be held on Thursday and Friday evenings, July 4 and 5. Those in charge of these dinners or reunions will please write the secretary of the A. L. A., who will gladly help with arrangements.

Travel announcement

Saratoga Springs is 39 miles north of Albany, N. Y., on the Delaware and Hudson railroad. There is little prospect of any special rates being granted for the conference. The round trip will probably be twice the one-way rate, plus the 8 per cent. war tax. No special train service will be allowed, though the Travel committee has been able to secure Pullman cars from Chicago to Saratoga without change. Pullman reservations will be made for party purpose and the war tax of 10 per cent. on seats or berths must be added to the usual fare.

The one-way railroad fare on standard lines is as follows, tax of 8 per cent. included: New York City, \$4.54; Philadelphia, \$7.53; Washington, \$11.20; Boston, \$5.49; St. Louis, \$26.64; Kansas City, \$32.56; Omaha, \$34.75; Milwaukee, \$24.38; Des Moines, \$32.75; St. Paul and Minneapolis, \$32.43; Cincinnati, \$19.33; Detroit, \$17.12; Cleveland, \$14.26; Buffalo, \$9.29.

Chicago party

Mr John F. Phelan of the Chicago public library will be in charge of the party. The New York Central will operate special Pullman cars, without change, for the exclusive use of the delegates, leaving Chicago, Sunday, June 30, La Salle Street station, at 5:30 p. m., reaching Albany at 1:50 p. m. next day and arriving at Saratoga at 6:25 p. m., allowing ample time to prepare for the opening session of the convention, at 8 p. m., Monday, July 1.

Railroad and Pullman fare

The one-way fare, Chicago to Saratoga, is \$22.17, including war tax, and Pullman fare, Chicago to Saratoga is \$4.95 lower berth and \$3.96 upper berth, including war tax.

Delegates from Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri and others passing through Chicago are invited to join the Chicago party, and are urged to register early with John F. Phelan, Chicago public library, remitting Pullman fare to insure reservation. The time limit will be June 20.

Tags for checking baggage through, Chicago to Saratoga Springs, will be furnished upon registration.

New York party

Mr. C. H. Brown of the Brooklyn public library, 26 Brevoort place, will have charge of the New York special party. They will leave New York City Sunday night, June 30, at 6:30 o'clock, on the Albany night boat, changing at Albany for Saratoga, arriving at Saratoga early Monday morning, July 1.

The fare from New York to Saratoga, on the night boat, is \$3.43 one way; reduction for a 10-party ticket. Staterooms accommodating two, \$1.50 up, plus 10 per cent. war tax.

Travel will be very heavy at the time of the conference and travel accommodations will be less than formerly, so that reservations should be made for staterooms on the boat not later than June 10 and as much earlier as possible. Make reservations through Mr Brown.

The fare from Philadelphia to New York City is \$2.43; Washington to New York City, \$6.10. The New York Central railroad has service at frequent intervals, taking five hours for the trip. Change of cars will have to be made in the Albany depot.

The Day Line boat to Albany leaves at 8:30 a. m., Sunday excepted, and delegates will reach Saratoga at 8 p. m.; fare about \$4.

New England party

The train will leave Boston South station July 1 at 10 a. m., passing through Framingham, Worcester, Springfield,

Pittsfield, arriving at Albany at 3:48 p. m.; leaving Albany at 4:45 and arriving at Saratoga at 6:25 p. m. These times should be verified, as summer schedules may make some slight changes.

Fare, Boston to Saratoga, one-way including war tax, \$5.49. Register for this trip before June 20 with F. W. Faxon, 83 Francis street, Boston, Mass., sending him money for parlor car seats only. Buy railroad tickets of local agents. Parlor car seats, including war tax, Boston to Albany, \$1.10; Worcester to Albany, 88 cents; Springfield to Albany, 55 cents.

Post conference

Saturday, July 6, will be observed as New York state library day at Albany, where plans have been made for the entertainment of the association.

It has been decided not to plan any post-conference trips this year. An attractive post-conference rest is offered at Lake Placid through the kindness of Dr Melvil Dewey. Lake Placid club, in the heart of the Adirondacks, can easily be reached by rail on the New York Central railroad, or it will be possible to make a wonderful motor trip with parties of 6, 11 or 14; also possible to go through Lakes George and Champlain and finish the last 35 miles from Westport by motor.

Those who go from the conference will be made welcome at Lake Placid. There will be a reduction on meals (a price of \$3 a day for the A. L. A. party) and \$1 rooms are offered free, or a credit of \$1 on any larger rooms, with a charge of half regular price for the difference. Dr Dewey's invitation contains promises of a library banquet, a 40-mile motor trip on one round and a 30-mile motor trip on another, with an afternoon on the lake in the club launch and a camp dinner in the woods. Free use of boats, golf courses, tennis and camps is offered. Other rides besides the two free ones, at half price for cars or carriages, can be arranged.

The party is urged to stay three days and invited to remain as long as they wish, until the rooms are required for the regular guests. Any who care to go to the Lake Placid club should write to Dr Dewey there of their wishes as to rooms

and their length of stay. Write him before June 20, for privilege cards entitling to reductions. Arrangements for transportation will be made at headquarters during the first three days of the conference.

Report of committee on nominations

The following nominations have been made by the Committee on nominations. The report of the committee has been adopted by the Executive Board.

President: William Warner Bishop, librarian, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

First vice-president: Charles F. D. Belden, librarian, Boston public library.

Second vice-president: Burton E. Stevenson, librarian, Chillicothe public library.

Executive board (for three years):

Linda A. Eastman, vice-librarian, Cleveland public library.

Adam Strohm, librarian, Detroit public library.

Council (for five years):

W. Dawson Johnston, librarian, St. Paul public library.

Joseph L. Wheeler, librarian, Youngstown public library.

Mary S. Saxe, librarian, Westmount (Quebec) public library.

Jessie Fremont Hume, librarian, Jamaica public library.

Henry N. Sanborn, librarian, Bridgeport public library.

Trustee of the Endowment fund (for three years): M. Taylor Pyne, Princeton.

Walter L. Brown, chairman

Mary L. Titcomb

Gratia A. Countryman

George H. Tripp

Charles E. Rush

Camp librarians especially invited

The Library War Service of the American Library Association has requested that all camp librarians attend the conference at Saratoga. As many of them would attend the A. L. A. as delegates from their home libraries, such a number are asked to do so as far as expenses are concerned at this time, the Headquarters paying any excess for transportation involved in the journey from the camp instead of from the home town.

Report of gifts

In the annual report of the A. L. A., of gifts and bequests to American libraries in 1917, the following are among the chief items: Gifts from the Carnegie corporation, \$1,055,934 (this includes \$320,000 for camp library buildings);

subscriptions for war library service, \$1,400,000; all other gifts of money, or property definitely estimated in money, \$3,876,559.

The largest single gift was \$1,000,000 from Colonel O. H. Payne to the New York public library, without restriction as to its use.

The Boston public library received the largest legacy in its history. This is a residuary interest in an estate of \$1,000,000, under certain conditions, by the will of J. H. Benton, for many years president of the board of trustees.

Number of gift volumes, 75,553; sites for library buildings, 8; miscellaneous and undescribed items, 42.

The A. L. A. report sets out the gifts in detail under states.

National Association of State Libraries

The National association of State libraries will meet with the A. L. A. at Saratoga Springs, July 1-8.

One session will be held jointly with the American association of law libraries. The program will be divided largely between the subjects of "State libraries in wartime" and the "Exchange of state documents." Plenty of time will be allowed for informal discussion. Watch the *A. L. A. Bulletin* for further information.

A Round Table conference of Training Class teachers will be held at Saratoga, Wednesday evening, July 3. A tentative programme is as follows:

What should be the standard of admission?

Marie Newberry, New York public library.

How long should the course be?

How much time per week should be given to practice and how much to study?

Should the practice be paid?

Lucy Morgan, Detroit public library.

What subjects should be taught?

Adah F. Whitcomb, Chicago public library.

How and when should undesirables be eliminated?

Clara Herbert, Washington public library.

When course is completed, what salary should be offered?

Ernestine Rose, Carnegie library, Pittsburgh.

AZARIAH S. ROOT,
Chairman.

Maritime Library Association

Founded, April 18, 1918

On April 18, in the library of Acadia university, there was formed an organization that will, we believe, be a most important factor in the intellectual development of Eastern Canada. This was the Maritime library association. President Cutten, alert to the fact that in the matter of public libraries we are far behind Ontario and Western Canada and very far behind the United States, called the librarians of the Maritime provinces together to discuss the situation. Fifteen of these met, earnest men and women, eager for efficiency in this high form of social service. Rev. Canon Vroom, of King's college, Windsor, talked with us on the place of the public library in the development of Canadian nationality; Miss Vaughan, of St. John public library, read a paper on co-operation in library work; Miss Lindsay, of Dalhousie university, sketched methods of cataloging; Mr E. J. Lay, of Amherst, told the story of the library in his own town; and Mr Harry Piers, of the Provincial science library, Halifax, gave a pertinent talk on book selection.

Then the conference, believing that the best results could be achieved only through organized effort, formed itself into the Maritime library association, in which all librarians of the Maritime provinces should have the right of membership. The following officers were appointed: President, Mr E. J. Lay, Amherst, N. S.; first vice-president, Miss E. M. A. Vaughan, St. John, N. B.; second vice-president, Miss L. F. Barnaby, Halifax, N. S.; secretary, Mrs Mary K. Ingraham, Acadia university, Wolfville, N. S.

The M. L. A. will begin at once to work towards its aims: the improvement of existing libraries, the establishment of new ones, and the promotion of library interests in every town and village in these provinces. Dr Benjamin Rand of Harvard university, who was the first to address the newly organized association, told us that the saddest lack in our eastern provinces

was the lack of books, and consequently of reading habits among the people. We hope now to take away that reproach.

MARY KINLEY INGRAHAM,
Secretary.

Library Meetings

Iowa—The spring district meetings of the Iowa library association were held in the eight districts into which the state is now divided between April 23 and May 10, 1918. The subjects discussed at all the meetings were War work and Books. Under the former were included Books for the soldiers. Thrift stamps, Food conservation and Records of local soldiers. The attendance was large at some of the meetings and smaller at others, depending upon the weather and the railroad facilities. The interest was most satisfactory throughout. Mrs Irving C. Johnson, president of the Iowa library association, attended all the meetings and her presence and words added much to the inspiration of the gatherings. The secretary of the Iowa library commission attended all but one.

Kentucky—The tenth annual meeting of the Kentucky library association was held in Louisville, April 24-25. The main topic of the meeting was the place of the library in war activities. Miss May W. Wigginton, catalog department of the Public library of Louisville, described the assistance that library gave in cataloging and organizing the camp library. G. L. Lewis, in charge of the camp library, told of the work there, outlining in detail the circulation of the books. Miss Fannie C. Rawson, secretary of the Kentucky library commission, spoke on the organization, throughout the state, of the book campaign, which secured some 40,000 books for the Kentucky soldiers.

A round table on library matters brought out the fact that library circulation has fallen off as the result of Red Cross activities. The question of Food Administration, as it might be taken up by the libraries throughout the state, was most interestingly discussed.

George B. Utley, secretary of the American Library Association, gave a

very interesting and definite account of the work the association had done in the matter of receiving contributions of \$1,700,000 and nearly 2,000,000 v. The association will try to meet the request of General Pershing that 50 tons of books be sent with every transport. These books are sent in specially made boxes which, when the tops are unscrewed, serve as small libraries, the books being arranged inside on shelves.

The following officers were elected: President, Miss Susan Towles, Henderson; first vice-president, Miss Euphemia Corwin, Berea college; second vice-president, Miss Henrietta Litzendorff, Newport; secretary-treasurer, Miss May W. Wigginton, Louisville; Miss Fannie C. Rawson, member-at-large.

Pennsylvania—The Pennsylvania library club held its regular meeting Monday evening, May 13, in the lecture room of the H. Josephine Widener branch of the Free library of Philadelphia.

Mr Frank H. Taylor gave an illustrated lecture on "Ever-changing Philadelphia."

The meeting was followed by a reception.

The annual election of officers was held, with the following result: President, Henry F. Marx; first vice-president, Morris Jastrow, Jr.; second vice-president, Mary A. Fell; secretary, Jean E. Graffen; treasurer, Bertha Seidl Wetzell.

The Executive board of the South Carolina library association has decided not to hold a meeting of the association this year.

Joint Technical Catalogs

One of the first two products of the movement in Glasgow to place before manufacturers, catalogs on different technical subjects has been received—Internal combustion engines. The movement started in the summer of 1916, at the Royal technical college, at a meeting of representatives of 14 technical societies and institutions in Glasgow. It was decided at this meeting to undertake the production of

joint catalogs of technical books in the libraries of the institutions represented. Already two catalogs have been issued covering the literature of aeronautics and internal combustion engines, soon to be followed by one dealing with motor vehicles. It is hoped that eventually the complete field of technical literature will be covered.

The material is classified by the D. C. and by means of letters, an indication is given of the library in which each book is to be found.

The scheme is being financed by contributions from the institutions participating.

Such books as are in the Corporation library of Glasgow may be consulted by the public and in general, obtained on loan. The others may be consulted in the libraries to which they belong. The scheme has met with general approval and a considerable degree of success. It provides a far-reaching and economical plan for making readily available a wide selection of literature dealing with science applied to the industrial arts.

Business Books

The monthly publication of the St. Paul public library is an index to recent books and articles in magazines, of interest to business men.

The first page of the four-page leaflet has the following:

The business library and the boy in business

In an article on "Preparing men for better jobs," in *System* for February, Miss Florence Swan tells how John Templar secured his first promotion through the house library.

The company's library was directly responsible for his promotion: first, it gave him an opportunity to read and to get a broader knowledge of the business for which he was working; second, it helped his employer to become aware of his interest and industry.

The concern in question, of course, does not go to the expense of having a library and librarian solely for the purpose of encouraging its young employees

to read profitably. Reference works, technical volumes, books and periodicals on general business and management subjects; even books on economics, philosophy, and psychology, particularly those having some bearing on business, are on its shelves. The engineers have at hand the reference books that they need. Executives find in the management books many ready-to-use plans and analyses of their problems. And all of these books, the management finds, serve the valuable secondary purpose of helping the minor employees to become better acquainted with business, their jobs, and often help fit them for higher positions.

New business books

American Institute of Accountants. Year-book. 1917. Contents: accounting for receivership, H. C. Freeman; Contact of commercial law and accounting, B. D. Kribben, etc. (1087)

How to analyze industrial securities. Clinton Collver. N. Y., Moody's investors service. 1917. 204 p. "This book has been planned to treat industrials as John Moody's 'How to analyze railroad reports' does the steam transportation lines." (1088)

The successful embroidery shop, Guido von Horvath. Philadelphia, The Von Studio. 1917. 157 p. Art needlework, designing, manufacturing, buying, selling, and business management. (1089)

Indiana. State board of accounts. How to measure legal advertising. 1917. 27 p. The purpose of this pamphlet is to secure uniformity as well as accuracy in charges for public advertising. (1090)

The Eaton and Burnett revised and improved bookkeeping, corporation, voucher and cost accounting. A. H. Eaton. Baltimore, Eaton & Burnett business college. 1917. 261 p. (1091)—*Business Books*.

Interesting Things in Print

The Chicago public library has issued a 68-page list of Russian literature in the original, including Ukrainian, in that library.

The H. R. Hunting Company, Springfield, Mass., has issued a list of 390 popular copyright books in three styles of reinforced binding. A price list on the scale of quantity is given. A catalog of standard juveniles, with 1,500 titles, is offered, also in strong library binding, for public libraries and schools.

A most enlightening and convincing volume is "The war and the Bagdad railway," by Mr Morris Jastrow, Jr., professor and librarian of the University of Pennsylvania. Professor Jastrow treats most interestingly the process of reopening the direct way to the East, which became closed to the West at the fall of Constantinople in 1453; particularly the disastrous effect of having control of it pass into the hands of one power, as was the plan of Germany.

He shows the moral necessity that the highway be kept open to all nations. Its past history voices "a warning to the West that the reopening of the highway must not be used for domination over the East, but for coöperation with it; not for exploiting the East, but for a union with it."

Librarians may be justly proud that the author of this illuminating book is pleased to be classed among their number.

Another book which throws interesting light on the events which have been crowding each other with such bitter rapidity in the last two years, is "Peaceful penetration," by A. D. McLaren.

W. J. Sykes, librarian of the Public library, Ottawa, has prepared a pamphlet entitled "A list of the best biographies from the point of view of a Canadian library."

This is the second publication of the kind prepared by Mr Sykes, the first one having been "A List of selected fiction suitable for Canadian libraries."

Mr Sykes prepared his list of biographies from standard guides, checked up what was not in his library and will endeavor to fill in the gaps.

The American Booksellers' association will hold their annual convention May 14-15-16. They have postponed accepting an invitation to Boston, on the ground that Boston offers too many "distractions" for a gathering intent upon complying with the government's requirements that conventions in war time serve a useful purpose. Therefore—New York! Will Father Knickerbocker now amend his estimate of Boston as "a state of mind" to read "a distracted state of mind?"—*The Dial*.

Library Schools

Carnegie library of Atlanta

Lecturers during the spring term have included:

Miss Laura Hammond, librarian of the Georgia school of technology, who gave two lectures on "College library administration." The lectures were followed by a visit to the library of the school of technology.

Louis J. Bailey, librarian of the Public library at Gary, Indiana, who talked on April 15 on the "Gary system of education and the Gary public library."

Miss Miriam Carey, supervisor of institutional libraries for Minnesota, who spoke to the school on April 22 on "Librarians and the social sense." Miss Carey is organizing the hospital library work at Fort McPherson and Camp Gordon.

Miss Lutie E. Stearns, who gave two lectures on April 25, one on "Library commission work," and another on "Why a librarian."

Visits have been made by the class to the Camp library at Camp Gordon, the State library and to the Byrd Printing Company.

TOMMIE DORA BARKER,
Director.

Carnegie library school

A department of the Carnegie institute

For the year 1918-1919 the Carnegie library school offers three courses in librarianship:

General library work.

Library work with children.

School library work.

Each course is one year in length and its satisfactory completion is recognized by a diploma.

The courses are sub-divided as follows:

Technical group, comprising the subjects pertaining to the practice of library science.

Bibliographic group, comprising the subjects distinctly bibliographic in character.

Administrative group, comprising those subjects which have to do with the organization and administration of libraries either directly or reflectively.

Contributory group, including all subjects which do not fall logically in any of the other three groups, but which contribute value to the curriculum.

Many of the subjects comprised in each

group are common to all courses, and form a basic system of instruction given to all students. Wherever necessary this common instruction is supplemented in each course by lectures, class discussion and problems relating especially to the work of that course.

Willis H. Kerr, librarian of the Kansas State normal school, Emporia, and librarian of the Camp Funston library, gave a course of lectures on Normal school libraries, April 20-23. Mr Kerr also told of his work at Camp Funston.

Miss Margaret Mann spoke April 20 on her experiences at Newport News, where she spent a month as assistant to Mr Brett.

Four lectures on Biography were given April 26-29 by Miss Elisabeth Knapp, chief of children's department, Detroit public library.

Mlle. M. Clément, Aggégée de l'Université de Paris, Professeur au Lycée de Versailles, lectured on French libraries, April 27.

Administrative officers and students attended the Founder's Day exercises of Carnegie institute held in Music hall, April 25.

Florence Broderick, '17, has been made librarian of the Woodbury branch, Denver public library.

Mary Jane Johnston, '14, has resigned as substitute assistant, Carnegie library, of Pittsburgh.

Olive N. Loeffler, '10, resigned her position as assistant in the children's department, Carnegie library of Pittsburgh, to accept a position with the Continuation schools under the Board of Education, Pittsburgh.

Edith C. Moon, '15, has resigned as chief of circulation, Trenton public library, to do Civilian relief work in France.

California state library

On April 12, Rev. Harvey V. Miller, of the Sacramento Congregational church, gave a very helpful talk before the class on the possibilities of the county library in the isolated rural community. On April 15, Miss Edna Holroyd, of the class of 1915, and now librarian of the Tuolumne County free library, told the class of the progress of county library work in her district.

Representatives of the State library and the State Civil Service commission

spent April 15 at Stanford university, and April 16 to 17 at the University of California, interviewing applicants for the next library school class. The university students making application promise a class up to the usual standard, in spite of the widespread interest in war activities.

Miss Vivian Gregory, '14, assistant in the Yolo County free library, has accepted a temporary appointment in the State library, to take charge of the camp library work.

Los Angeles public library

April 22-27 was "Visitors' week" when regular courses were suspended in favor of special lectures on subjects of general interest to members of the staff of the Los Angeles public library and to library workers in other libraries. A publicity exhibit and several personally conducted visits to branches were features of the week. The program included, among others, the following talks:

Library publicity, by Miss Drake.
Collection and care of free material, by Mrs. Brewitt.

The war as reflected in literature, by Miss Darlow.

Relation of the library to social betterment, by Miss Drake.

Professional tools, by Miss Horton.

Boys and girls clubs, by Miss Riddell.

The right book for each reader, by Miss Zaidee Brown.

Library associations, by Miss Haines.

During the month the principal visited Stanford university, Mills college and the University of California for the purpose of interesting college girls in library work as a vocation. Seven talks were given before various college organizations, supplementing the visits and talks made earlier in the year in institutions nearer Los Angeles.

The last days of April were devoted to library visits, a pleasant and profitable break in the class work. The libraries visited were varied enough to illustrate many phases of library work. They included several municipal libraries and representative high school, college, normal school, county branch and scientific libraries in the vicinity of Los Angeles.

THEODORA R. BREWITT,

Principal.

New York public library

The list of students and graduates who are engaged in national service has of late received several additions. Letty L. Davis, '12-13, is librarian for the Red Cross institute for crippled and disabled men. Ralph Gossage, ex-'13-14, has returned to France, this time with the United States army ambulance section. Marian Greene, '12-13, has sailed for work with the Child Welfare section of the Red Cross social service in France. Carol Hurd, '12-13, (Pratt, '11-12) is in France with the Y. W. C. A. Nelson McCombs, ex-'17-18, is with the Medical Supply detachment of the United States army at Camp Stuart, Virginia. Helen Scarth, '11-12, is employed in a munitions factory in New Jersey. Fannie Tabor, '13-14, reports giving service at the library at Camp Sheridan. Students are continuing to do short periods of practice work in the A. L. A. dispatch stations at the New York public library and at Hoboken. Red Cross Auxiliary No. 234, New York County Chapter, which is operating at the school under the direction of Miss Sutliff, has produced to date 141 pieces of knitted wear.

Series of talks by outside lecturers for the month include that on library legislation by Mr W. R. Eastman, and that on foreign fiction by Miss Mary Ogden White. Mademoiselle Marguerite Clément, who is on a mission to the United States representing the University of Paris and a group of French publishers, gave a most instructive talk on French library conditions on May 8.

The work of the advanced students for April and May has been of particular interest. F. W. Jenkins, librarian of the Russell Sage Foundation, has given as a part of the course entitled "The library and the community," a series of ten hours in which housing, recreation, delinquency, public health and related topics have been presented. Courses in "Branch library methods" and in "Special library methods" are now in progress, their content consisting mainly of single lectures by individual workers and experts.

The graduating exercises are to take place on the morning of Friday, June 7. The address will be delivered by Dr W. N. C. Carlton, librarian of the Newberry library, Chicago. On the preceding evening the annual dinner of the alumni association will be held.

Examinations for admission to the class which will enter in September will be given at the rooms of the school on

Saturday, June 8, from 9 to 12 and from 2 to 5 p. m.

Florence De Leon, an advanced student who has been holding a position in the reference cataloging division of the New York public library, is now assisting in the Americanization study of the Carnegie Corporation.

New York state library school

Several of the students are assisting in cataloging the books collected in the recent campaign for camp libraries. Henrietta Church, '93, is in general charge of this part of the work while W. R. Watson, '92, as district director is superintending shipments to various camps and cantonments.

Commencement exercises will be held June 14. Mr R. R. Bowker is expected to give the commencement address.

The library institute for high school teachers, which the school has been holding for the past three years, will be extended from ten days to three weeks, July 9-26.

Visiting lecturers have been:

April 23—Herbert Whitlock, State mineralogist. Lettering and the use of lettered signs.

April 29—John Foster Carr. The library and the immigrant.

April 30—May 4. Clara W. Hunt. Library work with children. (5 lectures)

May 1—Mrs Flora De Gogorza. Library work with children.

May 10—Anne Thaxter Eaton. The school library.

Herbert Whitlock has given to the school an excellent representative collection of typical lettered signs which illustrate the various library uses of such material.

Bessie L. Eldridge, Dorothy L. Hawkins and Margaret J. Scott, all of the class of '19, have been appointed temporary assistants in the New York state library.

FRANK K. WALTER.

Pratt institute

As the year draws to a close, two factors stand out clearly as showing the influence of the war,—one an increased demand for our graduates at distinctly better salaries than hitherto, and the other a diminished number of applications for the class of 1919. The former

is caused by the need of skilled workers in all departments of the government; the reason for the other is twofold:—on the one hand the drafting into war work of girls graduating from school and college, on the other because untrained assistants, of whom we have many in each class, hesitate to give up an assured position in times of uncertainty. This is especially true because in many cases brothers who have helped with the family support have been drafted. But I feel very strongly that girls need professional training now as never before. Those who go into temporary, unskilled work will find themselves with no economic basis when the war is over, and the untrained worker may find her burdens heavier than ever a year hence, while her productivity will have increased very little if at all. So that this coming year of all others is the time, it seems to me, when the library schools should be filled to capacity that they may help to meet the professional demands of the present and may help women to prepare themselves for an uncertain future.

The annual Alumni supper will take place on Friday evening, June 14, at the library. The classes of 1898 and 1908 will hold reunions.

Mr William R. Eastman of Albany gave his annual course of five lectures on library buildings. For several years past Mr Eastman has said, "This will be the last," but each recurring spring has brought him full of vigor and interest, and we hope to welcome him again in 1919.

Miss Mary Hyde of the New York public library school is giving the course in the history of libraries this year.

A letter received this week from Mrs Sophy Hulsizer Powell, class of 1905, who is studying at the University of California, says, "You will be interested to know that as a result of the form which you made out last winter, I got 12 college units of credit given to me on the strength of my year at Pratt."

Mrs Gladys Dixon Nicholas, '12, has been made assistant in the library at Camp Lee, where her husband, Major Nicholas, is stationed.

A letter from Gladys E. Schummers, '15, announces that she was married on March 30 to Sergeant John G. Vonhold of the 309th Heavy Field Artillery. Mrs Vonhold will continue in her position as librarian of the Fairhaven branch of the New Haven public library for the duration of the war.

Muriel Hotchkiss, '17, has resigned from the Public library of Poughkeepsie where she has been children's librarian and has accepted a position in the children's department of the Bridgeport public library.

Muriel J. Schabacker, '17, has gone to the Ohio State University library as cataloger.

JOSEPHINE ADAMS RATHBONE,
Vice-director.

St. Louis library school

In addition to the regular school courses, during April, Dr George B. Mangold, Director, School of social economy, gave two lectures on the bibliography of sociology.

Mrs George Gellhorn, chairman of the Woman's Central committee on Food Conservation and also chairman of the Food committee of the Council of defense, Missouri division, gave a resumé of what has been done and what has been planned for the future.

Prof Roland G. Usher of Washington university, author of "Pan Germanism" and "Winning the War," will deliver an address on "The public library in the National crisis" at the first commencement exercises of the St. Louis library school, to be held in the library on June 7 next.

Simmons college

An emergency course of six weeks in preparation for library work in base hospitals is offered this summer, on the suggestion of the A. L. A. War Service, as it is probable that there will be a need for many women for this type of service, both as volunteers and as paid workers. No guarantee of positions is made, as all appointments will be made from Washington, but as the need seems imminent, a measure of preparedness seems wise.

The technical library work will be given by the regular instructors of the Simmons College library school.

Further information may be obtained from Director of the Library school, Simmons college, Boston, Mass.

Recent lecturers who have spoken to the school are as follows:

Mr Henry N. Sanborn, April 22. Commission work.

Miss Clara W. Hunt, May 6. Children's work.

Dr Frederick Hicks, May 8. Law books.

Positions

Allen, Anita M., '15. Extension division, New York public library.

Ames, Harriet C., '15. Assistant-librarian, Rockefeller institute of medical research, New York.

Bowler, Inez, '18. First class yeowoman, U. S. Navy Yard, Charlestown, Mass.

Brewer, Margaret E., '18. Index clerk, U. S. Signal Office, Washington.

Clark, May, '15. On leave of absence from Carnegie-Stout library at Dubuque, Iowa, to reorganize Mt. St. Joseph College library at Dubuque.

Kimball, Theodora, '15. Has been in Washington several weeks to give advice on the establishment of a reference library for the new Bureau of Industrial Housing and Transportation.

Longfellow, Jean, '12. Assistant, Public library, Plymouth, Massachusetts.

McCarthy, Mary Alice, '14. Library of the new Bureau of Industrial Housing and Transportation, Washington.

McNamara, Katherine, '18. Assistant, Library of Landscape architecture, Harvard university, Cambridge.

Nottingham, Margaret B., '18. Index clerk, U. S. Signal Office, Washington.

Paschal, Nell, '18. Index clerk, U. S. Signal Office, Washington.

Smalley, Marie, '12. Index clerk, Bureau of War Risk Insurance, Washington.

Swanton, Helen F., '18. Executive assistant, Public library, Utica, N. Y.

Abbott, Marion J., '18. Assistant, School of Education library, University of Chicago.

Hartzell, Mrs. Bertha V., '18. Librarian, Social Service library, Boston.

Hatch, Mary, '18. Assistant, in cataloging and reference work, Public library, Watertown, Mass.

Sampson, E. Elizabeth, '18. Library assistant and reviser, Simmons college.

Sands, Gladys F., '18. General assistant, Boston Athenaeum.

Timmerman, Hazel B., '18. Children's work, New York public library.

Western Reserve university

During the past two months the school has had as special lecturers Miss Lutie E. Stearns, who spoke on "The library and present day problems"; Mr W. H.

Brett, who gave a talk on his work in the A. L. A. Dispatch office at Newport News, Va., while at home for a brief stay; and Miss Sarah C. N. Bogle, principal of the Carnegie library school, Pittsburgh, who spoke to the students on "School library work in Pittsburgh."

The following lectures have been given by Cleveland speakers: "The educational work of the Art museum," Miss Helen Gilchrist, of the Museum staff; "Books of the fine arts," Miss Virginia E. Graeff, Cleveland school of art; "War poetry," Mr Walter Graham, of Western Reserve university; "Public speaking," Prof Howard S. Woodward, of Western Reserve university; "Cleveland Welfare federation," Mr Sherman C. Kingsley, director, Cleveland Welfare federation; "The European background of our foreign born citizens," Mrs Eleanor E. Ledbetter; "Municipal reference work," Miss Ada M. McCormick, head, Municipal reference library, Cleveland.

The courses in Government documents by C. P. P. Vitz, and in Book binding by Miss Gertrude Stiles have been completed.

On May 7, the students, accompanied by the director and Miss Willard, made a very pleasant and profitable trip to the Reuben McMillan library of Youngstown, where the attractive building and the activities of the library were explained by Miss Viola B. Phillips, acting librarian, and a graduate of W. R. L. S. '14. On the following day they attended the North-east District meeting of the Ohio library association at Niles.

The dates of the entrance examinations for 1918-19 are May 24 and 25.

Rachel B. Forbush, '16, has entered upon her duties as librarian, Public library, Oskaloosa, Iowa.

Helen B. Lewis, '15, has become acting first assistant, Hough branch, Public library, Cleveland.

Clara Angell Taylor, '15, is in charge of Apprentice training, Public library, Dallas, Texas, while her husband is attending the Aviation school there.

Cards have been received announcing the marriage of:

Beatrice F. Margolies, '15, to Abram A. Kalish, New York City.

Mildred C. McAfee, '15, to Augustus B. Merry, second lieutenant, Engineers, N. A., New York City.

University of Wisconsin

The work of the spring quarter continues the regular courses. Current topics have been discussed by authorities in different fields, beginning with Miss Stearns, who spoke of The library and the ideal democracy, and continuing with The dry movement by Emerson Ela, president of the Madison Dry league, Woman's suffrage by Mrs Glenn P. Turner, of the Legislative reference library, and Russia by Prof. Ross, who added to his vivid talk on life in Russia, a discussion of how a book of travel is written. Special lectures on professional subjects have been given as follows: The library of congress, Mr W. W. Bishop, librarian, University of Michigan; Interchangeable school and library methods, Prof. C. S. Pendleton of the university; Opportunities of high school library work, Edith L. Cook, librarian, East technical high school, Cleveland; Newspapers in public libraries, Prof. W. G. Bleyer, Department of Journalism.

Again the school has had the honor of welcoming a poet. Robert Frost came for an hour on an April day, bringing increased interest in modern poetry, and a vivid message in his talk of the "Tone of Voice" in poetry and letters. He also read from his own poems, to the joy of all.

The present year has been peculiarly one of exhibitions, due, no doubt, to the increasing emphasis everywhere on visual instruction. In January, the students themselves had a loan exhibition in the foyer cases, each bringing one article of interest, properly labeled. The arranging of these articles in related groups and their proper display, was excellent preparation for the food and other patriotic exhibits that became part of the field work later. In April, in connection with Miss Merrill's lectures on library extension, the cases were requisitioned for photographs, plans, and charts showing the extension work and plans of various libraries. The A. L. A. exhibit on binding and mending occupied the walls of the gallery at the time of the lectures on binding by Miss Turvill. An illuminating exhibit of books for the blind, liter-

ature concerning the work with them, and articles made by the blind, was on view at the time of Miss Welles' lecture on Work for the blind. Two blind students in the university gave a demonstration of reading for the class. Liberty loan, thrift stamp, and food posters have been displayed in the gallery, and their composition, lettering, and appeal studied.

"May day" is always *the occasion* of the spring quarter, and the event this year was fully in keeping with the spirit of the day. It is "open house" day for the school in Madison, home-coming day for alumni, and poster bulletin day for the present class. Mr William Warner Bishop, librarian of the University of Michigan, was the speaker, giving a most able lecture on the Manuscripts and books of the fifteenth century. The lecture was illustrated with slides, many of them colored, that had been made for the occasion.

Positions offering for the graduates have been many, and as a result 23 of a class of 31 are already placed for next year, with positions pending for others, and several temporary places for summer work waiting for any who may be free to accept them. The demand for trained workers far exceeds the supply. The positions filled are as follows:

Frances F. Bacon, member, Training class for children's librarians, Cleveland public library.

Ruth S. Beech, children's librarian, Fond du Lac public library.

Laura E. Burmeister, cataloger, library of the North Dakota Agricultural college, Fargo.

Ruth S. Cochran, assistant, Racine public library.

Catherine Culver, assistant librarian, *Milwaukee Journal*.

Julia M. Fink, assistant reference librarian, Public library, Aurora, Ill.

Alice L. Isphording, assistant, Public library, Cincinnati.

Gertrude Kelly, assistant, Public library, Detroit.

Ruth M. Lathrop, reference librarian, Madison free library.

Edla M. Laurson, librarian, Public library, Mitchell, S. Dak.

Anna M. Magee, assistant, reference, Carnegie library of Pittsburgh.

Irene M. Newman, assistant, Public library, Minneapolis.

Claire Nolte, children's librarian, Antigo public library.

Edna D. Orr, assistant, Public library, Cincinnati.

Edith A. Rechygl, librarian, Stanley public library.

Jessie E. Reed, branch librarian, Public library, Chicago.

Jean M. Sharpe, assistant, library of the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Martha O. Skaar, librarian, Waukesha high school library.

Miriam E. Smith, assistant, library of the U. S. department of agriculture, Washington.

Grace M. Stingly, librarian, Public library, Rochester, Ind.

Geneva A. Twells, assistant, East Side branch, Public library, Evansville, Ind.

Gertrude Weil, assistant, West Side branch, Public library, Evansville, Ind.

Mrs Flora H. Whyte, reviser, Wisconsin library school.

Helen Cochran, reviser for the school since her graduation in 1916, died suddenly in Memphis, Tenn., on April 28. Miss Cochran had gone south in January on leave of absence because of ill health, but was so much better that her ticket was purchased for returning to Madison when death claimed her. She was a library worker of scholarship and professional promise and her death is a loss not only to her co-workers but to the library world.

Elizabeth Royce, '18, taking the joint course in the College of letters and science and Library school, was elected to P B K at its recent election.

MARY EMOGENE HAZELTINE,

Preceptor.

Summer schools

A course of lectures for librarians and library workers will be given at the State agricultural college, Fort Collins, Colo., June 3 to July 12.

Beginning with the session of 1918-1919, the University of Tennessee will give college credit for the courses which they offer in Organization and administration of a high school library, as Junior and Senior electives in education for one-half year.

The Minnesota public library commission and the Minnesota department of education announce the nineteenth annual session of the summer school for library training, to be held at the State university, Minneapolis, June 17 to July 26, 1918, as a department of the University summer session. Application should be made to Miss C. F. Baldwin, director, Minnesota library commission, St. Paul, Minn.

Department of School Libraries

Inland Empire Teachers Association

**Report of meeting of Library Section,
April 3, Spokane, Washington**

A meeting of the Library section of the Inland Empire teachers association was held April 3, 1918, in the library of the Lewis and Clark high-school, Spokane, Washington, the president, Miss Gertrude Buckhous, librarian, University of Montana, presiding.

Food conservation and war work were emphasized in a series of interesting papers and addresses, before a group of representative librarians of the Northwest.

The first speaker, F. A. Adams, director of education for Washington, under the U. S. Food Administration, gave an interesting address, emphasizing ways and means of aiding the U. S. Food Administration in food conservation.

W. W. Foote, Library director for Washington, spoke on "Library publicity and food conservation in Washington." The work which might be accomplished for food conservation, by the libraries and schools working in co-operation, was pointed out. The eagerness of the librarians and teachers to aid in this movement told in the fine reports from all over the state, sent to the director, as well as hundreds of essays and many beautiful posters by the school pupils show that the schools and libraries of Washington are doing good work for food conservation. (A large number of these posters were on exhibit.)

George W. Fuller, librarian, Spokane public library, spoke on the "War service of the Spokane public library." A food show was held in January, which attracted large numbers. Two campaigns for collecting books were made during the year, which netted over 10,000 volumes. A third campaign to raise camp library funds resulted in contributions of almost \$2,000.

Miss Elizabeth Stout, librarian,

Lewis and Clark high-school, Spokane, read a very interesting paper by Miss Mary A. Batterson, librarian of the Green Lake branch of the Seattle public library, who was unable to be present. Miss Batterson's subject was "What one library is doing to help food conservation." An account of a very successful food exhibit held in February at this branch was especially interesting and instructive.

Miss M. Z. Wilson, librarian, Bellingham normal school, gave a brief account of the splendid co-operative work being done at that school. The library is taking a most active part in all war work.

Miss Lucile Fargo, librarian, North Central high-school, Spokane, told of the interest the boys and girls were taking in all phases of food conservation and war work. Special use had been made of the Boy Scouts, the various clubs and other organizations.

Dr James Fleming Hoscic, secretary of the National Council of teachers of English, Chicago, Illinois, principal speaker of the convention, was the last on the program. His subject was

The importance of the library in the school.
Dr Hoscic spoke in part as follows:

With regard to the national movement he stated that there has been recently a remarkable increase of interest in the matter of school libraries. "One of the most gratifying evidences of this is the enlargement of the equipment in the older schools and the providing of new and very fine equipment in the schools that are being built. Probably a no finer example of the school library can be found than that in charge of Miss Mary E. Hall in the Girls' high-school at Brooklyn, New York. With the help of a trained assistant and two or three cadets Miss Hall takes care of a daily circulation of over 500 books and conducts a library classroom next door to the library itself. In the library are found, in addition to the books belonging to the

school, a large loan collection from the New York public libraries, vertical files containing clippings relating to the various subjects of study, a file of lantern slides, an exhibit case for new and illustrated books, and a bulletin board for clippings from the papers, under the charge of committees of students. The work of the library is immediately connected with that of most of the departments in the school. Among other notable examples of library organization is that in Buffalo, where a room has been provided which will take care of 40,000 volumes.

The importance of the library will be seen at once when it is stated that in the modern school pupils are trained to work as they are expected to work in their later life. This means that they solve problems for themselves and in doing so learn how to solve problems. For example, history is not taught merely from a single book which is memorized, but the subject is presented in the form of large problems and the pupils are invited to arrange projects for getting the material with which to solve the problems. This material they collect, present, and organize for themselves. To do this kind of work requires a library. To illustrate the point further by reference to English, it will be seen at once that if boys and girls are to form the habit and to learn the method of reading extensively, they must have access to a library. The intensive reading of a few masterpieces with the help of formal notes will never produce the ability or the disposition to use books as people actually do in the ordinary walks of life. In a word, the school is to present a full and varied experience, and the library is an essential means for doing this.

As a matter of practical procedure, the smaller places may find it necessary to center their efforts in the public library, bringing together there all of the books which are available for circulation. In such case the pupils are near the building and it is possible for all of them to come and go. In

towns of moderate size it is desirable that at least a part of the available capital of books be segregated in the various schools. Here, perhaps, close co-operation between the public library and the schools will prove to be the solution, but wherever the size of the place will warrant it, the school should have its own library and should depend largely upon it, not forgetting the possibility that books may be obtained from the public library which the school cannot afford to own, nor if the pupils are to learn to use the public library, they must use it. The first step probably is to educate the authorities to the need of library equipment and of a properly trained teacher-librarian, who should be paid as other heads of departments are paid. The second step is to secure a definite place for library training in the course of study and full co-operation on the part of the various departments with the library. These steps must be taken gradually, but they should be taken persistently. If the modern school requires, as it is generally supposed to do, extensive shops and laboratories, it also requires a well-furnished, well-equipped, and well-managed library."

The officers for the coming year are: President, W. W. Foote, librarian, State college of Washington; secretary, Miss Helen Wilkinson, librarian of the schools of Flathead county, Montana.

W. W. FOOTE,
Secretary.

Round-table of High-school librarians

A Round-table conference of High-school librarians met recently at Ann Arbor. The meeting was presided over by Miss Poray. A talk by Miss Hodge of Highland Park on, "More than books." She very ably discussed the special opportunities which the high-school librarian has to encourage the individual preferences of the pupils in science, mechanics, or other subjects, and also her opportunities to develop a taste for good literature, by placing before them only the best works, and

such as will give them the cultural background which most of them lack in their homes.

Different librarians gave reports as to what library instruction they were carrying on in their schools, or what special work they had undertaken. From these reports and the discussion that followed many valuable hints were gained for dealing with high school problems.

The committee on Instruction in high-school libraries stated that they had collected a large amount of material but had not, in the time given, been able to organize the material so as to give a complete report. The committee was continued another year that the material may be combined into recommended courses for high schools of different grades and sizes. Mr. Certain of Cass Technical high school, Detroit, was appointed as an additional member and chairman of the committee.

The officers elected for the following year were—Chairman, Miss Fanny Ball of Grand Rapids; secretary and treasurer, Miss Mabel Asman of Bay City.

FANNY D. BALL, Secretary.

Conferences on Reading

A conference of teachers, parents and librarians on children's reading, was held in the Public library, Evanston, Ill., April 16-17.

The first afternoon was devoted to reading for high schools. The principal addresses were made by James F. Hosis, Chicago normal college and Helen Babcock, librarian of the Austin high school. Marcus Skarstedt, librarian of the Evanston public library, presided.

At the second session, Jessie E. Black, instructor in literature for children at the University of Chicago, was the speaker. Miss Black, out of her years of experience, was able to be definite in her theories and their application. She protested that children read too much; that most of the juvenile fiction is mediocre, written-to-order, shoddy and saps the

life from the tender beginnings of thoughtful reading.

She made a plea for more direct and special coöperation between parents and children, supplemented by direction from the teacher. She strongly advocated reading aloud to the pupils. She quoted Hawthorne to the effect that children possess an unestimated sensibility to whatever is deep or high in imagination, so long as it is simple, likewise. It is only the artificial and complex that bewilders them.

A booklet containing lists of books suitable for different ages, development, conditions and requirements were prepared by the library for distribution.

The Fourteenth annual conference on children's reading was held at the Ryerson library, Grand Rapids, Mich., May 4. "Patriotism" was the keynote applied to children's reading, by William H. Eastman, National security league, Miss L. L. Wilson, teacher of history, Mrs. Harold M. Barnes, a mother, and D. B. Waldo, president, State normal school, Kalamazoo.

How and what should children read? Opinions differ. There are those who would sapiently select "a course of reading" for them, forgetting that books thrust upon a child are not infrequently as unpalatable as treacle, salts and senna.

Dr. Johnson insisted that the reading that gave no pleasure and entertainment is of no value, and he insisted that if one opened a book in the middle and found it interesting he should read on, because if he waited to begin at the beginning he might never read it at all. Others claim that any reading is beneficial and improving per se, whether we are conscious of it or not, on the theory that no one knows the particular beefsteak that builds up his muscles.

Desultory reading or reading that lacks sequence and coherence is advocated by many, as when a person, young or old, is turned into a library to browse where he will and make his own selections. He is sure to select such works as he likes and which he reads with avidity, and these fix themselves firmly in his mind.

News from the Field

East

Carrie L. Williams, librarian of the East Somerville branch of the Public library, Somerville, Mass., has been granted a leave of absence for the duration of the war to take charge of the Base hospital at Camp Devens, Ayer, Mass.

Nectar M. Eksergian resigned from the staff of the West Somerville branch to accept a position in the ordnance department of the United States government, Washington, D. C.

Helen E. Pulsifer of the Norfolk House Center library, Roxbury, Mass., was appointed to the staff, May 5.

Ruth G. Markle of Somerville, Mass., and Ruth H. Stretton of Woburn, Mass., were also appointed to the staff, May 5.

A new regulation passed by the trustees of the Boston public library requires that all Public library employees must live within the city limits. Nearly 25 employees are affected by the rule. The librarian, Mr Charles F. D. Belden, under the ruling, will be compelled to give up his charming home in Cambridge.

Central Atlantic

Katharine B. Esselstyn, N. Y. P. L., '13-14, has left the circulation department of the New York public library to become librarian of the Lamont memorial library, McGraw, N. Y.

Maud I. Stull, N. Y. P. L., '15-16 (Drexel '14), has left the New York public library, to become librarian for the World Outlook Publishing Co., New York.

Sue E. Hilson, chief of the children's department of the Free public library, Trenton, N. J., has resigned to take a position with the Ordnance department, Washington, D. C.

Edith C. Moon, Pittsburgh, '13, chief of the circulation department of the Free public library, Trenton, N. J., has resigned to enter the Friends' Reconstruction service in France.

The Prints division of the New York public library has on an exhibition illustrating the "Making of a lithograph." The wonderful resources of lithography, its flexibility, its peculiar suitability as a "painter" art, a process to serve the artist as a means of direct expression, are clearly shown in the prints displayed. The exhibition will be open until the end of October.

Central

W. J. E. Barnwell, for 48 years assistant librarian of the Public library of Cincinnati, died May 8.

Miss Helene Fairchild, formerly of the Detroit public library, has been appointed librarian of the Public library, Hastings, Mich. The library will open June 1.

The record of the Public library, Waterloo, Ia., for 1917, shows a circulation of 160,768 v., of which 41 per cent was non-fiction; books in the library, 28,462; cards in force, 7,501; income, \$18,994; expenditures, \$17,970—as follows: books, \$3,054; salaries, \$8,486.

The Public library, Kewanee, Ill., celebrated the tenth anniversary of the opening of the new Public library building, April 24. An address on Changing library tastes, by Miss May Masee, editor of *The Book List*, a display of new books and other attractive library resources gave much pleasure to the visitors.

What is to be called a Library council, made up of the librarian, assistant librarian and assistants in charge of divisions and sections, has been organized in the Public library staff, St. Paul, Minn. "The object of this Council shall be to discuss and determine questions of policy relating to the library, particularly such questions as relate to the co-ordination of the work of the different departments. The Council is to meet monthly."

An interesting collection of books and magazines relating to the printing art and journalism, belonging to the late John B. Huling, Downers Grove, Ill., has been added to the library of

the University of Texas. Mr Huling was of the fourth generation of editors and printers and took great interest in gathering the books, which undoubtedly will be of value to students in the university.

Mrs William Daniells, of Madison, Wis., died at her home there, May 12, after a long illness. Mrs. Daniells was well known for many years past to visiting librarians as the charming hostess whose beautiful home and gracious hospitality made doubly delightful a stay in Madison. She was a leader in all the fine arts of life in her community, and her going will leave many saddened hearts.

The *Toledo Blade* of April 27 contains an interesting sketch of the Lucas County library at Maumee, Ohio. The library has recently occupied their new Carnegie building, which stands on historic ground. The plot of ground is the battlefield where Colonel Dudley, of Kentucky, and his men were defeated by Proctor and Tecumseh in the War of 1812.

The Lucas County library has branches in four towns in the county and from the main library and these branches, any person in the county may receive directly by mail, books or information. The library will start branches through the schools shortly and hopes in time to touch every community throughout the county. The library is in charge of Miss Emilie Mueser, Wisconsin, '16, formerly in the New York public library service.

The Public library of St. Paul has just finished the three years period that has elapsed since the library was destroyed by fire. The progress in extension made in that time has been remarkable. The year before the fire, there were 21 branch stations with a circulation of 124,000 v., 21 per cent of the total circulation. Last year there were 56 branches and stations with a circulation of 283,000 v., 34 per cent of the total circulation. Before the fire, the library had accumulated in a period of 58 years, 164,000 v. Since

the fire, it has collected 187,000 v. Of these, however, owing to the extension of the branches, 35 per cent are duplicates. There remains the more arduous task of choosing a wide range of literature desirable for such a library. A special loss was their collection of old English periodicals, of which they had 17,000 v. Today there are numerous gaps in the periodicals on hand, which are being filled as rapidly as possible.

The Des Moines public library issues its report for the year ending March 31, 1918, in a pamphlet entitled "War time work of a public library." In story form, the war work of the year is described by the librarian, war time conditions in a cantonment city having affected to some extent practically every activity of the library. A total circulation of 314,431 v. is recorded, 9,655 new borrowers having been registered during the year, making a total registration of 19,191. The library now contains 100,677 volumes, 7,479 being added during the year. Receipts totalled \$35,460; expenditures for books, \$5,897; periodicals, \$1,061; staff salaries, \$17,467.

Through the cooperation and financial assistance of the Highland and Oak Park business men's association, which furnished a large ground floor store, rent free to the library, a branch of the Des Moines public library in the Highland Park section of the city, was opened May 1. Miss Maude E. Graham, formerly librarian of the University Place branch and later first assistant in the circulation department, has been appointed as branch librarian.

West

Anna L. Gates has resigned as assistant librarian of the State normal school, Valley City, N. D., to become librarian in charge of the social science department, Public library, St. Paul, Minn.

The report of Truman R. Temple, librarian of the Public library, Leavenworth, Kans., says:

It has cost us thousands in our statistical summary to discard them, but it is a matter of pride to say that the year has seen the

disappearance of the last copy of Stratemeyer, Castlemon, Motor-boat boys, etc.

The library has been specially serviceable to the young men who have found an opportunity to prepare for examination for admission to the different officers' training classes.

The circulation for the year was 75,735 v.; per capita, 3.9; number of borrowers, 4,649; percentage of population, 24; books on the shelves, 26,172; number of circulating agencies, 13; income, \$6,332; expenditures, maintenance fund, \$6,026.

South

Miss Lorna J. Teuscher, St. Louis public library, '17, has been appointed librarian of the Public library at El Reno, Oklahoma.

Miss Harriet Yeargain, St. Louis public library, '13, has resigned from the Catalog department to accept a position in the Quartermaster General's office, Washington, D. C.

Frances Young, N. Y. P. L., '13-15, has left the Montgomery (Ala.) library association, and has been appointed librarian for the National organization of public health nursing, New York.

The Gates memorial library was formally presented to Port Arthur, Tex., April 26. Large donations of books were received from citizens. Among these were 250 v. from Mrs. John W. Gates, the donor of the library.

Lulu Reed, N. Y. P. L., '15-16, was married at Paducah, Ky., on February 24, 1918, to Fain W. King. They will reside in Washington, Mr King being stationed there with the Quartermaster's department of the United States army.

Dorothy D. Lyon, for some time librarian of the Public library at Little Rock, Ark., was married to James Groves at Coudersport, Pa., March 28. They will make their home at Oberlin, O., where Mr Groves is the Y. M. C. A. secretary for Oberlin college.

Miss Beatrice Prall, B. L. S., Illinois, '16, has been appointed librarian at Little Rock.

Pacific coast

Florence M. Waller, N. Y. State, '18, will go to the Public library, Seattle, Wash., in June to take charge of the Industrial Arts department.

Lucile Kelling, N. Y. State, '17-'18, has been appointed librarian of the Public library at Centralia, Wash., and will begin her duties in July.

N. Mignon Fisher, N. Y. State, '18, has been appointed librarian and supervisor of the files of the Willamette Iron and Steel Works, Portland, Ore., and will begin her duties July 1.

Margaret Upleger, librarian of the University of Oregon library, has resigned her position as the result of a discussion of her leniency toward the cause of Germany.

The annual report of the Public library, San Diego, Cal., records the successful conduct of a branch for the naval training station at Balboa Park. Circulating collections of books were sent to a number of camps and soldier stations in the vicinity of the city. The report of the library shows a steady increase in the Club Study and the Reference departments, where there has been an increase of 75 per cent.

During the year, the library held seven exhibits—one being of architectural designs and another a display of the library's old and rare books. There were 26 bibliographies prepared and 90 newspaper and special articles. The library runs a full page announcement in the *San Diego Tourist*. The population of San Diego is 101,000; number of volumes in the library, 69,028; circulation, 477,640 v.; number of agencies, 72, including 39 stations and 25 schools; number of staff, 33; total number of registered borrowers, 18,450; receipts, \$46,322; salaries, \$21,744; books, \$6,655; total maintenance, \$41,860.

Wanted

Cooper, Charles R.—Chronological and alphabetical record of the engagements of the great Civil War, with the casualties on both sides. Address Public Library, Louisville, Ky.